



GIFTS FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE

PAGES 6&7



MY HO, HO HOME FOR 22 YEARS

PAGE 3

Protest over cuts at respite centre



FEARS FAMILIES WILL BE HIT
IF BEDS CLOSE: **PAGE 4**

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A Magical Christmas Experience at Audley End Miniature Railway

FESTIVE ADVENTURE

WINTASIA: Saffron Walden Common, 5 Cates Corner, Friday, December 7-23, times vary

■ Wintasia is back on Saffron Walden Common. Full of festive spirit with an Alpine twist there will be a real log fire and a fully licensed bar offering mulled wine and cider, a range of other alcoholic beverages plus coffee and hot chocolate topped with cream and marshmallows. Snacks plus seasonal mince pies will also be offered.

The popular marshmallows will be available again to toast over the open fire. More fulfilling food options will also be available from our on-site food wagon.

It's every child's dream to meet Father Christmas, and they can do so in a new, unique Santa's 'bell tent' grotto. He'll be back at Wintasia for seven days only.

Guests can also experience the only synthetic skate rink in the area.

It is also a great place to go and have a drink, dance as party nights are back. Enjoy the festive atmosphere as Wintasia's DJs add the apes ski spirit on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Prices vary.

For more details visit: www.wintasia.co.uk

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

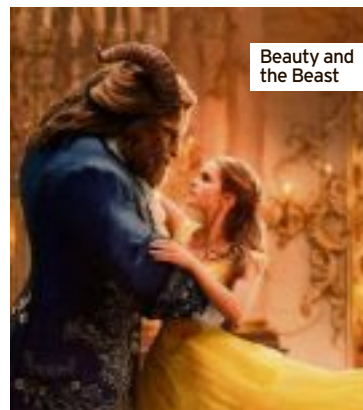
HARLOW BRASS BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT: St John's Arts and Recreation Centre, St John's Walk, Market Street, Sunday, December 9, 7.30pm

■ The band will be playing a variety of music from their engagements this year as well as Christmas favourites.

They are also delighted to be joined by guest vocalist James Miller. Tickets available on the door - £6 (under-16s free).

WINTER WONDERLAND

A MAGICAL CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE: Audley



Beauty and the Beast

End Miniature Railway, Audley End Road, Saffron Walden, until December 24, times vary

■ Enjoy a magical Christmas experience with your family at the Audley End Miniature Railway.

Take the Santa Express deep into the woods of the Audley End Estate where you will arrive at Father Christmas's Winter Wonderland.

You will meet the big man himself, along with his very cheeky elves, receive a special gift and also watch a crazy Christmas dance.

Once you have returned from Father Christmas's Winter Wonderland, you can then visit the activity area where you can write Father Christmas a letter and post it to him at the festive post office.

Also enjoy craft making, face painting, story telling and a dance tent.

Why not treat yourself to a warm cup of mulled wine from the Signal Box Cafe and get your last minute gifts from our Station Shop too?

Included in the ticket price: Train ride to meet Father Christmas, gift for every child, letter writing, face painting, story telling, craft making and the dance tent.

Booking is required. Tickets will not be available to purchase on the day. Tickets from £11.

For more details visit: www.audley-end-railway.co.uk/events/christmas-special-2018/

SEASONAL SINGING

LONDON COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHOIR AT CHRISTMAS: Saffron Hall, Audley End Road, Saffron Walden, Sunday, December 9, 7.30pm

■ They've sung for Nelson Mandela and Freddie Mercury, recorded with Madonna and Elton John, but still, the heart of the London Community Gospel Choir's mission is praise - and uninhibited, life-affirming song.

They are bringing a special Christmas celebration to Saffron Walden, and you won't have heard festive music quite like this: Tidings of deep comfort and pure, roof-raising joy.

Tickets from £15. For more details visit: www.saffronhall.com

MOVIE SHOWING

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST: Rhodes Arts Complex, 1-3 South Road, Bishop's Stortford CM23 3JG, Saturday, December 8, 11-4pm

■ The Rhodes Pantomime is back - bigger and more beautiful and beastly than ever.

From the same team that brought you the record-breaking productions of Cinderella and Snow White comes the spellbinding story of Belle, the spirited and headstrong village girl who enters an enchanted castle and melts the heart of the monstrous Beast who dwells within its walls.

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What's ON

NEAR YOU
THIS WEEK

MUSIC, THEATRE,
COMEDY... AND
MORE

Centre's grotto, my ho-ho-home for 22 years

WE MEET FATHER CHRISTMAS - A MAN WHO LOVES HIS WORK

By **CHARLOTTE PAGE**

charlotte.page@reachplc.com
@journopage

THE festive season is with us once again and for one man, December is a very busy month.

From meeting children, to making and wrapping presents, Father Christmas has plenty to do in the run up to December 25. But what are the festivities like for the big man himself?

I arranged to meet Father Christmas as he took up residence in his grotto at The Harvey Centre for the 22nd year.

As I arrived at the grotto on the ground floor of the shopping centre, I was greeted by chief elf Alice who has been welcoming children for the past 25 years.

The grotto itself is a feast for the eyes with candy canes, gingerbread men, iced gems and strawberries all featuring in a magical display.

Parents, carers and children alike often stop during their shopping trip to take a look.

The inside of the grotto is just as sweet with a Christmas tree to the right and sacks full of presents leading to the chair, where the jolly man in the famous red suit sits.

"When the children come in their faces absolutely light up, as do their mums and dads, faces," said Father Christmas.

"To see all their faces, it's unbelievable - parents, grandparents,



Florence Dellegrazie loved meeting Santa in his grotto

great grandparents - I get a great reaction from everybody, not just the children."

Father Christmas has been visiting The Harvey Centre for more than two decades, and one of his favourite things is meeting children from different generations of the same family.

"They come in as babies, or when they were small, and now they're grown up and they've got their own children," he said.

"They bring their pictures in from 18, 19 or even 20-odd years ago.

"It's lovely as they've still got the same Santa in the picture.

"Another best part is that we get the same people come in year in, year out. It makes me feel very good, I love them all."

During my time at the grotto, Father Christmas received a visit from three-year-old Florence and already a trip to see Father Christmas has become a tradition.

Seeing Florence's reaction shows how a trip to the grotto makes Christmas magical for a youngster, but even more so, when Father Christmas remembers.

Her mum, Sofia Dellegrazie, said: "The first time I brought her she was three months old and we've been coming every single year - it's like a tradition. We will always come here."

A visit to Father Christmas isn't complete without a photograph and elf Alice can transform your picture

"We get the same people come in year in, year out. It makes me feel very good, I love them all

Father Christmas

into a bauble, key-ring or snow globe. So what's it like to be the chief elf?

Alice said: "It is very busy. I have to check all the toys - make sure they're all fit for standard.

"You have to get them all wrapped and make sure all the elves are wrapping them correctly and in the right bags for the right ages so quality control is very important.

"But my favourite thing about being an elf is seeing all the smiley faces on the children when they meet Santa. That is lovely.



Father Christmas is at the Harvey Centre
PHOTOS BY MARTIN XERRI



Santa's Grotto is now open to visitors



Our reporter Elf Charlotte Page making sure she is on Santa's good list

"It doesn't matter how many years you've been doing it, it's still lovely to see them smile."

Father Christmas's grotto is open seven days a week.

The Harvey Centre is open for late night shopping on Thursday, December 13, and then from Monday, December 17, to Saturday,

December 22. Meanwhile stores in The Water Gardens will stay open until 7pm and have free parking from 3pm on Thursday, December 13, and Thursday, December 20.

Shops will also be open until 7pm in The Water Gardens from Monday, December 17, through until Saturday, December 22.

News



Plans are to temporarily close one of the two flats at The Maples Respite Centre due to reduced demand

Protest over plan for cuts at respite centre

PARTY FEARS FAMILIES WILL BE HIT IF BEDS CLOSE

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The Harlow Labour Party is campaigning against the temporary decision to cut the number of beds at the centre by half

By CHARLOTTE PAGE
charlotte.page@reachplc.com
 @journopage

CAMPAIGNERS held a demonstration outside a Harlow respite centre following news of plans to cut the number of beds by half.

Harlow Labour Party launched a petition last week following Essex County Council's (ECC) decision to temporarily close one of the two flats at The Maples respite centre.

On Saturday, members of the party gathered outside the centre on Hodings Road to protest the decision.

It is understood that the number of beds will be cut from eight down to four when the proposals come into effect next April.

Councillor Chris Vince, who organised the protest, said: "Having spoken to parents and staff members, it is clear this service is vital.

"I am pleased that so many people came along to show their support for the centre.

"For parents with children with complex needs who use The Maples, it is a lifeline.

"It provides essential and tailored care that alternatives like childminding can't."

Cllr Vince was joined by leader of Harlow Council, Mark Ingall, and Labour's parliamentary candidate for Harlow and surrounding villages, Laura McAlpine.

She said: "Centres like The Maples offer a service which is so important to parents and young people alike and Harlow Labour Party are determined to fight these cuts."

Members of the party have also set up an

online petition and in the new year will be going door-to-door adding names to it.

However, ECC says that the change to provision will not affect families receiving respite care from The Maples and that claims the centre is oversubscribed are untrue.

The council would also like to add that no parents with children attending The Maples Respite Centre took part in the Labour Party demonstration, nor has it been suggested that childminders are an alternative to the services provided.

Councillor Dick Madden, ECC's cabinet member for children and families, said: "The number of families that use residential respite care in Essex has fallen.

"The change to respite provision at The Maples centre in Harlow is in response to this reduced demand.

"Having two fully-staffed flats which are open but under-used is not ideal and limits

our ability to develop other services for parents.

"The decision to temporarily provide services from one flat at the centre allows us to maintain our current level of operation and offer short breaks for all families receiving care at The Maples.

"No families will be left worse off as a result of this change.

"Staff at the centre and families using the service have been informed about these plans, and we continue to engage with special schools in the area and the Essex Family Forum to address any concerns.

"We have also written to local MPs to factually brief them on the situation.

"Our priority is to continue providing a high quality, efficient and responsive respite service that supports children and young people to thrive."

■ To view the petition visit harlowlabour-party.org/save-maples-respite-centre/



Essex County Council has said the changes will not affect families receiving respite care

Member of money-laundering gang is jailed for three years

By **HUW WALES**

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@journalhuw.wales

A HARLOW man has been jailed for his part in a money laundering gang that laundered an estimated £8.5million.

Jie Huang, 25, of Milwards Harlow, was part of a gang of four people who were involved in targeting Chinese students and tricking them into believing they could provide a better exchange rate when they converted their university fees into British currency.

Wei Han, 36, of Ive Street, London, was the main culprit who conned the students using Huang, Adam Fuller, 20, of Seawall Highway Coventry, and Wenqi Li, 26, of Wood Wharf, London, as part of the conspiracy to launder the money that he had obtained.

Huang had been arrested on January 18, 2018, after police saw Fuller give him two bags which were placed in the boot of a car and driven to an address in Brook Mews North, in London.

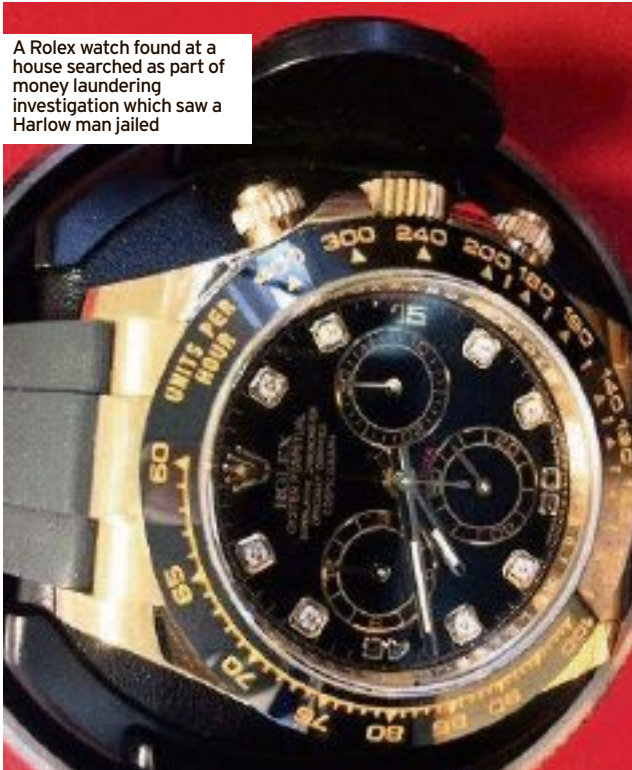
When the car was stopped by police, they exited the vehicle and during a search of the bags they found roughly £500,000 in cash.

Both were arrested on the scene on suspicion of money laundering.

Police entered the house on Brook Mews North and found that Han had been in the process of burning financial paperwork and was later arrested.

During a search of his home in Ives Street, London, police seized high-value watches and jewellery, and found a Bentley and a Maserati in the garage.

A Rolex watch found at a house searched as part of money laundering investigation which saw a Harlow man jailed



Other watches discovered during the investigation



The three men were charged with conspiracy to launder on January 19.

The fourth member of the gang, Li, was arrested on February 21 after police found she had taken control of the cash connected to the gang.

She was charged on February 22 on suspicion of money laundering.

Police identified £3.6 million of

bank deposits and designer retail spend linked to the laundering conspiracy from July 2017.

While the offences from which the cash came from have not been discovered, police are convinced that they originated from criminality or were intended for criminal purpose.

Detective Constable Keith McCor-

mack from the Met's Proactive Money Laundering Team said: "This was an organised operation laundering huge amounts of criminal cash for multiple third party criminal gangs.

"Those convicted targeted innocent students who unwittingly supported their criminal network.

"I hope this case serves as a

reminder to the public to not be tempted to use unlicensed money exchange services.

"This type of criminality will not be tolerated and the group will now face justice for the part they played in this organised crime."

Huang was jailed for three years and four months for his part in the gang.

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News

Gifts appeal is going to put big smiles on lots of faces

SALVATION ARMY HELPS STRUGGLING FAMILIES

By CHARLOTTE PAGE

charlotte.page@reachplc.com
@journalpage

MORE than 100 children are set to receive Christmas presents following an appeal by the Salvation Army.

On Tuesday (December 4), volunteers from the Harlow Salvation Army, in Tendring Road, met with representatives from local agencies who will pass the presents on.

Gifts will be given to local families in need to make sure that as many children as possible have the opportunity to enjoy a festive treat.

Gifts include board games, cuddly toys, books, colouring and more.

Students of Burnt Mill Academy have been busy collecting toys for families.

Major Chris Sandford, church leader of Harlow Salvation Army, said: "During the festive season, when many are enjoying celebrations with friends and family, others are struggling to make ends meet.



"The Christmas story inspires us as a church to reach out to those in need, but we wouldn't be able to do this without the support of local people.

"On Thursday (November 29) I visited Burnt Mill Academy who had been busy collecting toys for families that may otherwise go without.

"We are so grateful to everyone who helps us help others."

Sophia Chippett, who organised the school's toy appeal, said: "Burnt Mill Academy has shown incredible generosity this Christmas with the number of gifts that were donated for The Salvation Army's Christmas

Present Appeal.

"Both students and teachers showed amazing compassion that will help transform Christmas for families in our local community."

The Salvation Army works throughout the year to provide compassionate support, a listening ear and practical help to people who are vulnerable or in need in Harlow.

Major Sandford said: "We have our annual carol service on Sunday, December 16, at 3pm at our premises in Tendring Road with our brass band and choir.

"There will be a nativity too. During the service, there will be a collection in support of The Princess Alexandra Hospital's Saunders Ward to help raise money for new equipment.

"The ward provides care for older people and those with complex needs.

"It will be a great festive occasion and we'd love to see you there."



Students at Burnt Mill Academy have been busy collecting toys for families

Pink Spice

Festive Season
Opening timetable
Christmas Day Opening times: 12pm - 5pm

CHRISTMAS DAY WELCOME CHAMPAGNE

Christmas dinner includes mixed starter, Christmas roast turkey, gravy, Yorkshire pudding, Christmas pudding/custard, mince pie and lastly tea or coffee. Dine in for £39.40 OR Takeaway for £29.90 (delivery or collection) Boxing day opening times: 3pm - 9pm

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

from 7.30pm - 1am (£34.90)

BOXING DAY BANQUET NIGHT

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WELCOME DRINK - ALL YOU CAN EAT - LIVE MUSIC & DJ - MIDNIGHT CHAMPAGNE

New Year's Day Opening Times: 5pm - 10pm

WELCOME DRINK

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Lorraine Evans, centre coordinator, Nikki Dodson, of Essex Young Carers, and Sally Goddard, volunteer
PHOTOS: MARTINE XERRI

News



Sharon Newton, a family support worker



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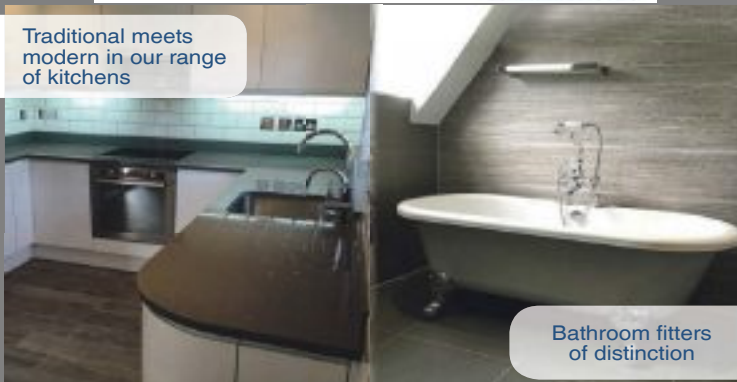
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News



Young and old were enthralled at Harlow police station open day

Police hit target with an open day

HUNDREDS VISIT HARLOW STATION EVENT

By **SIMON MURFITT**

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@simonmurfit1

POLICE officers, staff and volunteers hosted an open day at Harlow police station to show residents what they do to help keep Harlow safe.

On Sunday, December 2, hundreds of guests visited Harlow police station to learn more about what our officers do.

At the open day, traffic officers spoke to a number of children, giving them road safety advice and invited them to try on their police kit and explore their police cars and motorbikes.

Essex Police's dog section showed off its four-legged friends who help protect the county, including Police Dog Kane who enjoyed the attention.

And crime scene investigators showed children how to gather evidence and take fingerprints from pretend crime scenes. Some children took their fingerprint samples home as keyrings to show their friends at school.

PC Emily Cross from Loughton Local Policing Team said: "I've really enjoyed the open day as it gives us the chance to speak to the public about any concerns or policing questions they have.

"It's fun to be able to let the children get involved and learn that as

FIND OUT MORE

FOR more information about what our officers in Harlow get up to, visit the **Essex Police - Harlow Facebook page**.

For more information about Volunteer Police Cadets visit essex.police.uk/cadets

To find out how you can volunteer as a Special Constable, or for other volunteering opportunities, visit essex.police.uk/volunteers

To find out how to become a police officer and how to apply visit essex.police.uk/fitthebill

Learn more about the Essex Police Museum and when you can visit by following its Facebook page Essex Police Museum.

tions and let them try on their uniform.

Harlow Community Policing Team spoke to residents about their policing questions and provided them with crime prevention advice for the winter.

Detectives, PCSOs, Special Constables, student officers and Volunteer Police Cadets spoke to visitors about their experiences and roles.

The Volunteer Police Cadets also paired up with Free Cakes For Kids, a Harlow-based charity, to bake cakes and cookies to raise money for Harlow Stroke Association and Prince Alexandra Hospital.

Together they raised a total of £175.20.

Meanwhile the Essex Police Museum curator showed visitors historical items and spoke

about the history of policing. Sergeant Rob Fitt who organised the open day said: "It's great to be able to speak to the public and to listen and answer their questions. It's good to be able to show them what we do as a police force to help keep them safe."

police officers, we're here to help them."

Special operations officers were also on hand to show visitors how they use drones to help search for missing people and suspects, while public order and firearms officers showed children how they deal with difficult situa-



A young visitor enjoys his day

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News

A woman was rushed to hospital in a 'serious condition'



Collision puts a driver in hospital

CHURCH LANGLEY ROAD CLOSED FOR INVESTIGATION

By **ELLIOT HAWKINS**
elliott.hawkins@reachplc.com

A WOMAN was rushed to hospital in a 'serious condition' following a collision in Harlow.

The incident happened at around 9am on Tuesday on Church Langley Way.

The road was completely closed to allow emergency services to deal with casualties.

The woman was taken to Royal London Hospital in a 'serious condition' as a result of the collision and another woman was taken to Princess Alexandra Hospital.

Police, paramedics and an air ambulance were all called as the road was closed for more than an hour.

A spokesperson for East of England Ambulance Service said: "We

received a call at 9.06am with reports of a road traffic collision in Church Langley Way, Harlow.

"We sent two ambulances, an ambulance officer and the Essex and Herts Air Ambulance.

"One patient was taken to Princess Alexandra Hospital and a second was taken to the Royal London Hospital in a serious condition."

A spokesperson for Essex Police said: "We received reports that a taxi and two women, aged 67 and 73, were in collision.

"Both women have been taken to hospital with injuries.

"Enquiries are ongoing."



Police, paramedics and an air ambulance were called to the scene

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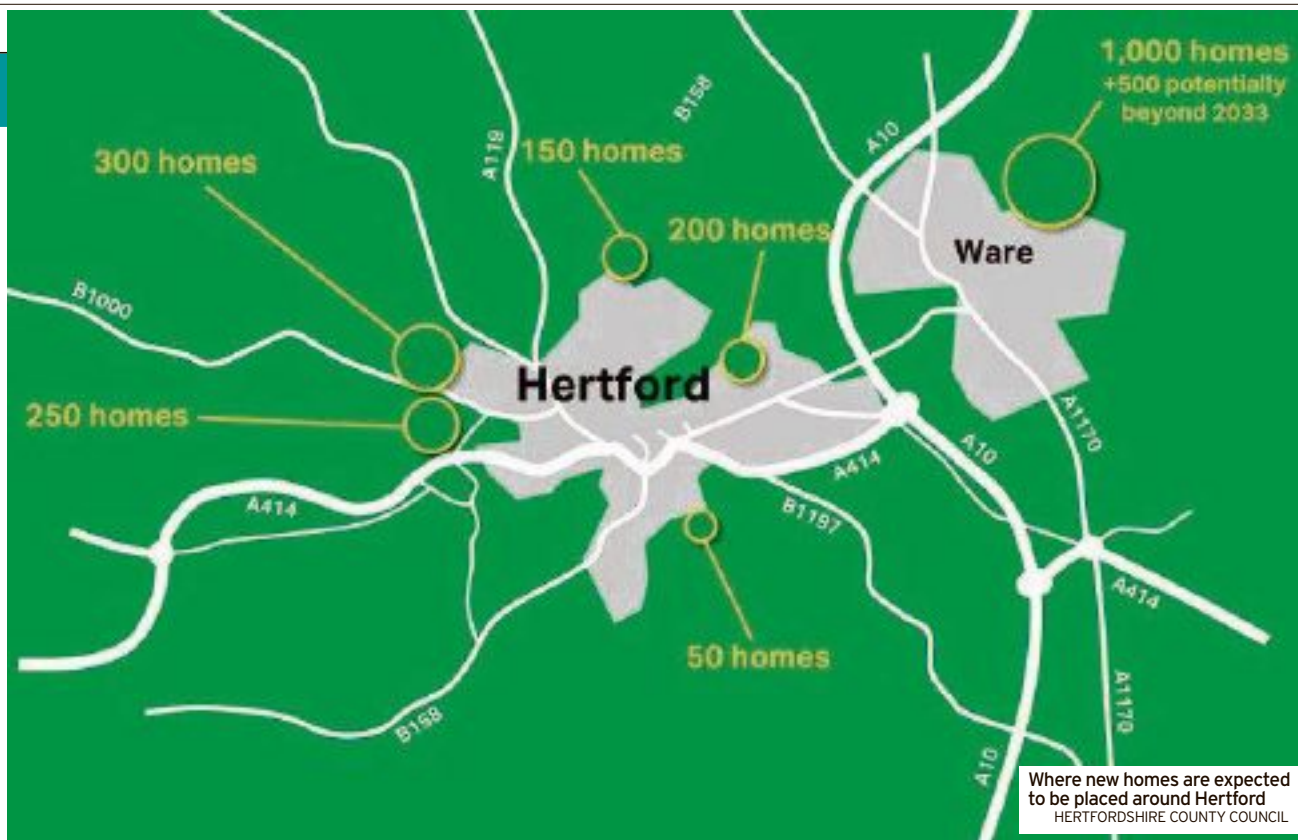
News

Gateshead Roundabout on the A414 in Harlow



“

We need people to make sustainable transport choices and we need to have the supporting infrastructure and improvements in place along the A414 corridor.
Councillor Derrick Ashley



Give views on A414 road plans

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100,000 HOMES IN TEN YEARS CALL FOR UPGRADE IN ROUTE

By **CHARLOTTE PAGE**

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@journopage

A CONSULTATION period on plans to improve the A414 has now opened.

Plans to improve east-west travel across the county, including by car and more sustainable choices, have been published by Hertfordshire County Council.

With 50 per cent of a new 100,000 homes expected in just over the next decade to be along the A414 route, plans are in place to prevent further congestion and routes taking longer.

The A414 Corridor Strategy sets out the plans, with proposals to reduce congestion and provide real alternatives to travelling by car.

The strategy sets out 30 sets of improvements along the length of the route, from Hemel Hempstead in the west to Harlow in the east, taking in Watford, St Albans, Welwyn Hatfield and Broxbourne along the way.

Among these plans are a bypass to the south of Hertford, a new junction on the M1 and improvements to the Park Street and London Colney roundabouts.

Similarly, HCC wants to create a new public transport link across the county and improvements to both the walking and cycling routes along the A414 to encourage people to seek alternative routes.

Cabinet member for growth, infrastructure, planning and economy, Derrick Ashley, said: "There are over

100,000 new homes planned for Hertfordshire by 2031 and 50 per cent of these will be along the A414 route.

"This will have a significant impact on the road itself, and on the towns along the route, and the increased traffic congestion will lead to longer journey times if we do nothing.

"We need to make improvements to this key cross-county road, but just as importantly we need to make walking, cycling and public transport more attractive and practical options.

"This is the biggest period of growth for Hertfordshire since the post Second World War New Towns era.

"A key part of ensuring we deliver 'good growth' will be to ensure that our communities are economically, socially and environmentally sustainable. To do this we need people to make sustainable transport choices and we need to have the supporting infrastructure and improvements in place along the A414 corridor.

"We want residents to tell us what they think about the A414 Corridor Strategy to help guide our future transport planning and investment.

"These are the changes we will look to implement over the next 20 years so we are really keen to hear from the younger generation on how they want to travel around the county in the future."

■ The consultation period will end on February 25, 2019.

■ To have your say on the plans visit hertfordshire.gov.uk

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Three councils set to decide on garden town 'vision' document

PROPOSALS ARE FOR 7 NEW VILLAGES NEAR HARLOW

By **HUW WALES**

huwwales@reachplc.com
@journalhuwwales

A 'VISION' for the proposed Harlow and Gilston Garden Town will be put before the executives of three councils in the coming weeks.

The plan, which was started to be drawn up in June 2017, aims to set out the way that the garden town would help the area and contribute to the regeneration of Harlow town centre.

Executives from East Herts District Council (EHDC), Harlow Borough Council, and Epping Forest District Council (EFDC), will have to separately approve the document, with any changes having to be

agreed by all three councils.

A series of workshops have been held since then to help develop a vision, a draft of which was considered by a review panel in May 2018, and consultations were held during the summer.

The proposals are for seven new 'villages' to be built in the Gilston Park area of Hertfordshire, just north of Harlow, while other areas of development are proposed for the western, southern and easterly edges of Harlow.

The 'vision' document, if agreed, would be used to prepare final masterplans for the garden town and help to assess planning applications for the sites.

These principles are centred on



An artist's impression of what the Gilston and Harlow Garden Town could look like

four areas, economy and regeneration, placemaking and homes, sustainable movement, and landscapes and green infrastructure.

In a report accompanying the documents for East Herts councillors it states: "The final vision and its supporting design guide were considered by the Garden Town Member Board on the 12 November 2018 and it was agreed that, in light of the specific advice provided by the Quality Review Panel, each local

planning authority (East Herts Council, Epping Forest District Council and Harlow Council) should give formal weight to the documents in the planning process.

"It is recommended that these are agreed as a material planning considerations when assessing site specific master plans, the emerging Gilston Area Charter, pre-application proposals, planning applications and for any other development management purposes..

"This will ensure that development proposals will achieve garden town ambitions, and that clear parameters are established for future masterplanning and consideration of planning applications across the garden town."

However, during the consultation process, representatives from parish councils around the proposed sites registered their concerns with the plans, in particular over infrastructure and the future of Princess Alexandra Hospital.

The document will be discussed and decided upon at the meeting of the Harlow Cabinet on Thursday, December 6, Epping Forest District Council's cabinet on December 10, and at East Herts Executive on December 11.

If agreed, the final vision and design guide will be submitted to the Garden Town Member Board on February 4, 2019, for endorsement.

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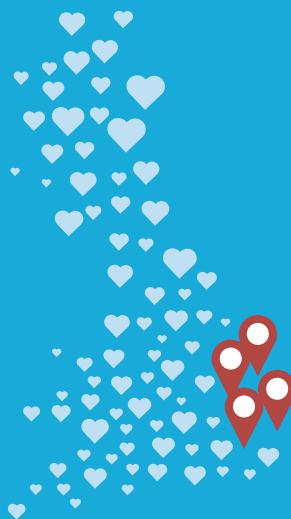
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News

Anne Wafula Strike MBE with her honorary degree in Health Science from University of York St Johns



Double the honour for paralympian

HONOURARY DEGREE AND ASSOCIATION BOARD ELECTION

By **HUW WALES**

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@journohuwales

A HARLOW Paralympian has said that she is honoured to have been voted onto the board of the British Paralympic Association (BPA).

Anne Wafula Strike, MBE, was voted onto the board during an event earlier this month.

It wasn't the only accolade that she received, as she was also given an honorary degree from the York St Johns University last week.

She said: "It is all just really a surprise. Sitting on the BPA board means I will now be representing all of the country."

"I didn't think I was going to get it. There was a strong field of five people. I will bring something different on the table for parasperts."

"It is a honour that I can sit on the board of the BPA."

In order to take her seat, she had to explain why she was the best person to be voted onto it at a meeting on November 7.

She said: "The important thing is not leaving anyone behind. Sports can help break down barriers for disabled people and each barrier that is broken helps our voices be a little louder."

The second accolade that she received was an honorary degree in health science from the York St Johns University.

The letter asking her to take up the degree was as surprising to her as her election onto the board of the BPA.

She said: "When I got the letter asking me to accept it, I read it and wondered if it was a joke."

"I had to think about it whether to accept it. I decided I couldn't turn it down because it was such an honour."

"Part of the citation was the work I had done. There are so many barriers we face and every time we break a barrier down our voices get stronger."

She is also appearing today at the European Diversity Awards at the British

Museum where she has been nominated for the Sports Personality of the Year award facing Natasha Baker, Nicola Adams OBE, Jacqui Oatley MBE, Sir Mo Farah CBE and Martina Caironi for the award.

Every time we break a barrier down our voices get stronger

Anne Wafula Strike MBE

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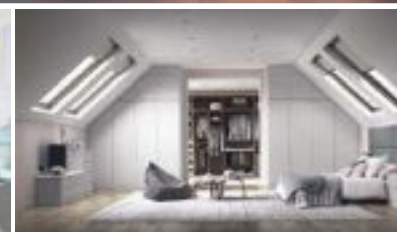
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Music

Bish Bash bosh... indie favourites are set to headline festival



Saffron of Republica, who will be playing at next year's Bish Bash festival

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INDIE rockers Republica have been announced as the Saturday headliners at next year's award-winning Bish Bash music festival, which takes place over the May Day Bank Holiday weekend in Castle Park in Bishop's Stortford.

Fronted by the charismatic Saffron, the 90s indie technopop band are best known for their hits Drop Dead Gorgeous and Ready To Go.

Despite only reaching number 43 on its original release, Ready To Go returned to the charts the following year at number 13 and has become an anthem for many sports teams and advertising campaigns around the globe.

Fresh from selling out his Shepherds Bush Empire show in March, Jim Bob from Carter USM can now be announced as main support to Shaun Ryder's Black Grape, who close the Sunday.

Despite being from South London, Carter USM honed their trade playing The Square in Harlow many times throughout their career, which they called a day in 2014, and retain a loyal local fan base.

Headlining the Bar Stage on Saturday will be local favourites The Kazans, but with a twist.

They will be performing a set of Oasis songs as their alter ego, Koasis.

Previously announced acts for the two-day festival include Papa Shango, O'Connell and Love (Alabama3), The Kubricks and A Band Called Malice.

The full line-up will be announced in the coming weeks including the Acoustic Club-run Bandstand Stage, comedy curated by Paddy Lennox and children's activities.

Tickets are currently available online, with special discounted weekend tickets if purchased before the New Year.

Go to www.stortfordmusicfestival.org.uk



Papa Shango are also on the bill

The Hives all set to be at forefront of rocking night at Audley End

SWEDISH alt-rockers The Hives will headline the last of next year's Heritage Live concerts in the grounds of Audley End House and Gardens in Saffron Walden, it has been announced.

The Fratellis and The Sandinistas will also be on the bill for the Giles Cooper Entertainment-promoted outdoor show.

The Heritage Live Concert Series will take place across the weekend of July 12-14.

Organisers have already announced that 80s stars The Human League, ABC and Belinda Carlisle will appear on the opening night, with disco legends The Jacksons, Kool and the Gang and Boney M featuring Maizie Williams on stage on the Sunday.

It's been just over a decade since The Hives released their debut album *Barely Legal*, which serves as a perfect introduction to the intoxicating rush of blood to the head that the band, and particularly, their live show, encompasses.

The band's 2000 follow-up *Veni Vidi Vicious* catapulted them onto the world stage, on the strength of hits *Hate To Say I Told You So* and



Main Offender, which established them at the forefront of the international garage rock revival.

Their unique look of black-and-white suits and top hats will be in keeping with the majestic grounds of Audley End, as the band headline what will be a rocking Saturday night.

Meanwhile The Fratellis roared

into their second decade with their fifth album *In Your Own Sweet Time* released in 2017 to widespread critical acclaim and commercial success.

Costello Music, their incredibly successful singalong debut album, earned them a Brit Award for Best British Breakthrough Act and spent an incredible 83 weeks in the

charts, bolstered by hits such as *Flathead*, *Whistle For The Choir* and most famously *Chelsea Dagger*.

Opening the show, The Sandinistas hail from the Welsh Valleys, and have become a tour de force live act, having toured relentlessly throughout 2017 and built a strong following.

The four-piece count Radio 1's Huw Stephens among their fans, and also performed four shows at the prestigious South By South West Festival in Austin, Texas.

Tickets go on general sale tomorrow from ticketmaster.co.uk - tickets for the other shows are already available.

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YOUR VIEWS

LETTERS

We must learn from the past and stay friends

NOVEMBER 11, 2018 and the associated events are now over for another year.

We have rued the deaths of many millions of Europeans, and the Asians, Anzacs, and North Americans who we got involved.

Millions of Europeans were displaced, and many unable to return.

TV programmes have shown us snippets of the terrible misery caused to so many of the people who survived.

Yet, despite the horrors of the First World War, it took only 21 years before the outbreak of the Second World War.

Those two wars happened in the first 50 years of the 20th century,

Let's now stop, stand still again, and cogitate on the comparative calm that has descended on western Europe for the second half of the 20th century and two decades on into this century and consider the reasons why.

After the First World War the vanquished were largely left to themselves to recover.

After the Second World War it was realised by the more enlightened that it was first necessary to help re-build the destruction wreaked during the war.

Those that 'won' could not prosper until those that 'lost' regained some prosperity, or history would repeat.

After almost 20 years struggling to regain living standards, the two main (long term) protagonists of main-land Europe, France and Germany, decided to bury the hatchet and work together in trade. This proved highly beneficial, and other European states joined them.

The benefits of this extended close cooperation were soon seen to ensue.

Prior to the wars, the UK was able

to rely on resources from our empire, developed largely during Victorian times, in an exploitative manner.

In the post-war era these sources became more self-reliant, less controlled and their output less reliable... and not so cheap.

So, after eyeing the Europeans for over 30 years, busily enhancing their prosperity, UK decided to join them.

The French were not keen for us to join, but we persisted.

That was 40 years ago, and meantime we have become totally entangled with joint European concepts, standards in production etc and trade.

The UK have produced many of these European standards, and others have been seeded by UK equivalents.

Our companies and European companies have benefitted enormously from joint operations.

The UK has further benefitted in a number of ways and many UK people, particularly the younger ones, now feel European.

Being a relatively new expanding enterprise, the EU has, perhaps unsurprisingly, made numerous mistakes, but they go on talking to one another until an acceptable solution is reached, however long it takes.

In some respects the other European representatives behave in ways which would not be our first choice, and the "calming" voice of the UK is not always immediately welcomed.

But, they do sit talking to one another... and not one of them carries a gun!

Meanwhile, the swashbucklers who are descendants of the Empire-builders, their beneficiaries and their bedfellows of today, do not seem to realise that the methods of



PHOTO
OF THE WEEK

trading used by the Victorians (and before) are no longer acceptable in today's world.

The formation of a new UK-based 21st century pattern of world trading, would require the build-up of a new breed of fresh-thinking traders.

Clearly there are many other things to be said about our relationship with the EU, but on reflection, they fall into insignificance compared with the possibility of renewed hostilities.

Moreover, those people with a strong anti-EU attitude do not acknowledge that any "wasteful" spending by the European Union is peanuts compared with the cost of a single day at war.

GH Chase
Harlow

Truly caring medical attention by new team

MY mother has ridden with flashing blue lights into the A and E department at PAH at least four times in the past 12 months.

In fairness, she is 99 years of age and suffering a number of medical

problems including near blindness with macular degeneration and onset dementia.

Those visits have been a nightmare for her and troubling for her family - as most people will surely recognise.

But no more...

On Friday she was rushed in at around 8.30 with a trapped hernia. Very painful and very worrying.

The thought of an operation at her age was scary to say the least. Thanks to the team in A and E they managed to manipulate everything back into place - and here's the huge "thank you".

Mum was transferred into the newly-formed FAU team, specialising in providing care for older people.

The team of around six specialist doctors, nurses, oh and the tea lady undertook several investigations

and tests such as blood pressure, temperature, blood tests and scan - and provided cups of tea as well as detailed explanations to mum and myself.

It was like going back to post-war years of truly caring medical attention.

Mum was deemed to be fit and well (considering her age) and was returned to her care home full of praise.

Before discharging her one of the doctors spent valuable time with me explaining the importance of 'power of attorney' and 'end of life care'.

For my part I cannot praise the team enough. Everybody was cheerful, smiling, helpful and informative. Impressive stuff folks.

I'd like to say a very real thank you to all concerned.

Clive Taylor
Harlow

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John Brooks shared this image of a recently refurbished pond in Oakwood

WEBCHAT

Here's what you've been talking about on Facebook this week

Essex libraries: These are all the libraries that are earmarked to close down

I use Tye Green library regularly, it will be a sad day if they close it.

Ewa Tidy

I regularly visit my local library to take my children to story time. They have both loved borrowing books over the years, and I am a firm believer that books are an important part of development. It would be a travesty to lose them all together.

Karen Johns

I teach on a pre-employment programme in Harlow for a charity. Over 75 per cent of the clients use the computers in the main library as they do not have access nor can afford one. Universal Credit means that they need to log in daily. Amazing people such as Markie Mark volunteer to support those who do not understand how to use the computers and do a great job. Many may not take books out, but the facilities definitely are in use I also work in Newham and East Ham library is a great example of how a library can be used for the communities benefit.

Tara Whittle

I hope they manage to get volunteers so they are able to stay open, like the one I volunteer at in Sawbridgeworth

Tracy Pardue

'The majority of people don't use library services...'. The majority of people don't go to church, but they don't close. Sigh, have liked using Tye Green for the past few years.

Joy Hale

Cannot remember the last time I used one and I bet that goes for a lot of residents as everything is online.

Keith Knight

To be honest Harlow has at least four. With schools having their own, they're just not getting the people in them.

Jennifer Cox

I use the library regularly as don't have a printer and Word ran out on my laptop. Quite a few people I know use the library - be a shame to lose them.

Emily Louise Cross

We take our daughter to Tye Green library every other Saturday to get new books and we pop to the local

bakery on the way back. It's become our little thing. Will be really sad to see it close.

Cheryl McGinley

Noooo, not Mark Hall! I take my daughter there and I went there growing up. What a shame.

Lou Lou

I know you are all used to having multiple libraries in Harlow but there are four that I know of in Harlow, some towns are lucky to have one at all! It's not nice that these are shutting but it's not like there isn't going to be any in Harlow, I know the older generation will struggle with them closing but there are options out there.

Alison Armstrong

Maybe some of the savings could go towards something people would use! Something like the square maybe?

David Kemsley

They should be used to teach kids and people things in, set up groups etc, can we not save our libraries? We will regret this if we allow it. Put coffee or tea rooms in them make them social spaces.

John Mustafa

Tony Walker

NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS



Inspector, Harlow Community Policing Team

TRADITIONALLY December is one of the most demanding times of the year for policing with our town centre and shopping areas being extra busy during the day and licensed premises busy during the night.

The community policing team will be working hard to provide a visible presence throughout the day and night, we work closely with our Special Constabulary colleagues who have recently assisted in supplying officers at both the Harlow Town and Old Harlow Christmas lights events, the Special Constabulary volunteer their time and work alongside regular officers and provide excellent support throughout the year.

In partnership with the council's

Community Safety Team officers, I recently attended court and applied to the magistrates for a temporary closure order for a premises in the Dashes, this was following a series of complaints regarding drug use and anti-social behaviour, police had previously executed warrants at the address.

Anti-social behaviour and drug use is a real concern for the community and can make peoples lives a misery and we will take joint action to stop it from happening. The magistrates granted the closure order and the premises was returned back to the council, hopefully this will provide some relief to the local community and improve the quality of life for local residents. This is the sixth successful closure order that

has been obtained by police and the council.

There have been a number of incidents in Market Square Old Harlow over the past few months, disorder and violent crime late at night and in the early hours of the morning. Police have attended and have made a number of arrests and charged individuals however a long term solution needs to be sought to stop these incidents from occurring in the first place. We will be meeting with our partners to see what preventative measures can be taken to reduce anti-social behaviour, additional police patrols will be in place over the next month to tackle the problems in this area.

There have been a number of reports of scam telephone calls

being made to residents in Harlow from callers stating that they are from banks or HMRC asking for personal information which often result in money being taken from people's bank accounts.

Please do not pass any personal information over the phone regardless of how demanding the caller is, if you are unsure hang up and call your bank/HMRC direct you can then be confident that you are speaking with legitimate people and will not be subject of fraud. Essex Police website contains a great deal of countywide and local information and is a great site for information and crime prevention tips. Each month some of the local performance is recorded. During the month of October, Harlow Police

dealt with 44 missing people, 206 domestic incidents, 21 mental health incidents, 324 anti-social behaviour reports, solved 117 crimes, submitted 459 intelligences reports and conducted 38 stop and searches. The Community Policing team also posts information on both Twitter and Facebook, both are worth a look if you use these social media sites.

The Community Policing Team can be contacted via telephone number 101 or via the email address: harlowcpt@essex.pnn.police.uk. Harlow Police station is open daily (except Christmas Day) between 9am and 5pm outside of these times there is a telephone outside the police station so contact can be made with a police operator.

TALKING POINT

Ensuring older workers' skills are utilised

THE BIG QUESTION

How can we make best use of people's skills post-retirement?



The older generation have many skills

LABOUR: Frances Mason

IN Harlow we are fortunate to have many post-retirement residents using their skills to assist with local projects such as Pets Corner, Harlow Museum, The Gibberd Garden and Harlow Foodbank. In fact, many may not realise but the ushers at the Playhouse are all volunteers and the vast majority are post retirement.

Using your skills post retirement will improve health and wellbeing, evident from the volunteers across a number of residents' associations, forums and even Victoria Hall Theatre. Whilst there is a 65-year age limit to become a magistrate with retirement at 70 years, there is no age limit to become a councillor where there is a need to increase women's presence in the council chamber.

The Government is placing a high reliance on the voluntary sector to assist in all sorts of ways. VCSE (Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise) is becoming enshrined in law. The recent Offender Rehabilitation Act that brought in privatisation of



Probation Services for example, had an emphasis on voluntary organisations tendering for contracts to deliver services. The Care Act is another example where there is a reliance on voluntary resources to deliver services to people with long term care needs and disabilities.

The Government's austerity drive has relied on the use of people's skills post-retirement to prop up many vital services. Whilst Mrs May declares 'austerity is over' after eight years of cuts and tax increases, it is clear this is far from over when volunteers are being used in the police force, social care, NHS, drug and alcohol services. With the increase in pension age the pool of skilled post retirement workers will dwindle and this will have a bad effect on our community services.

UKIP: Jesse Pryke

THE word 'retirement' has always meant different things to different people. For some, it was the prospect of living the easy life after years of graft, relaxing doing the things they had always wanted to do but didn't have the time. For others, it was a gloomy prospect of years of boredom stretching into the distance.

Today, retirement is almost a word that doesn't exist. People who have gone past what used to be called the retirement age often find themselves busier than ever helping others and family.

Now the Government is trying to harness the energy and drive of the Saga Generation with a new strategy called Fuller Working Lives. It aims to inspire people over-50 to harness the benefits of continuing to work, encourage businesses to enable them, and help JobCentres to be better attuned to the needs of older job seekers, but remember, it's not the job of the state to tell us what we can and can't do in retirement, the choice is entirely yours. Being



retired may mean you have the time to look into things that you had always wondered about.

In any case, there's a range of opportunities you can enjoy in retirement. Perhaps the most valuable and rewarding thing you can do in retirement, is to pass your wisdom and knowledge on to the next generation. For me, that was what moved me into getting involved in politics.

After years of watching governments, of all parties, make mistake after mistake and failing to do what they had promised to do in their manifestos. I felt it was time to get involved myself.

GREEN:

Angela Faulds



THE Green Party wants to build a better, more positive future for everyone, including for older people.

In the UK, the proportion of the population over 65 has continued to rise, and more of us are living longer. While this is something to be celebrated, we also need to make sure that we are providing older members of the community with the support they need both individually and in order to continue to provide the immense contribution they make to society in so many different ways – from unpaid caring for grandchildren to voluntary work with charities, religious organisations, and the not-for profit sector. And many, of course, continue in paid work.

We believe that society as a whole benefit from strong intergenerational communities where older citizens can play an active role. The Green Party would ensure that there is a good variety of positive work and retirement opportunities available, including extending age discrimination rules to the voluntary sector, and ensuring funded opportunities to study adult education courses.

Many people post-retirement find themselves caring for elderly relatives and the Green Party would campaign for an increased investment in familial carers, to help safeguard their health and encourage them to keep in touch with their own interests and skills; and bring about the proper implementation of the Care Act, including the legal duty to identify carers and signpost them to support.

National government policies can play a decisive role in addressing the challenges created by an ageing population and in giving everyone the chance to enjoy a positive experience in later life.

WHAT QUESTIONS DO YOU WANT ANSWERED?

Every week we put your questions to representatives of each of your main local parties. So get involved! Email your questions to get the issues that matter to you on the agenda

email your
news to
community
@hertsessex
news.co.uk

YOUR CHARITY NEWS

Wear a jolly jumper and help hospice this Christmas

St Clare Hospice, is inviting everyone in its local community to don a jolly jumper for its annual Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday, December 13.

St Clare is encouraging groups of all ages to support the festive fundraiser, including businesses, schools and organisations, by wearing their favourite Nordic knitwear and making a donation to the hospice charity.

Whether you encourage your child's nursery, playschool or primary school to take part, or organise a dress down day in your

office, shop or workplace, it is one of the simplest and cosiest ways to support St Clare at this special time of year. Last year, the event raised almost £2,000 in vital funding for St Clare - enough to pay for over two weeks' worth of physiotherapy for patients either at the hospice or in their own homes.

The hospice's community fundraising lead, Dani De'ath, said: "St Clare's Christmas Jumper Day is the perfect way to bring people together at school or in an organisation to start feeling warm and festive during the Yuletide

season. Aside from raising hundreds of pounds in vital funding, it's also a great excuse to wear that flashing, light-up jumper you got three Christmases ago that lives at the back of the wardrobe.

"This super-fun event is a really jolly way to start celebrating Christmas and take part in something that makes a difference within your local community."

St Clare suggests participants donate £1 in return for wearing their favourite Christmas jumper. For information, visit stclarehospice.org.uk/event/christmas-jumper-day



St Clare fundraising team donned their jolly jumpers for Christmas Jumper Day last year

You'd be barking mad to miss this chance of enjoying Winter Walkies

MORE THAN 200 DOGS AND OWNERS EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

PUPPY love is in the air at St Clare Hospice as registration officially opens for the charity's annual Winter Walkies event.

The 5km pooch parade will be taking place at the hospice on Sunday, February 24 when more than 200 walkers and their furry friends are expected to support the fundraiser.

St Clare Hospice's events fundraiser, Emma Broadbent, is organising the event and said: "This year marks the 13th time the Hospice has hosted the event and it is as popular as ever.

"The 2018 walk saw 250 walkers and their dogs take part, and we are hoping even more people register for 2019."

Emma continued: "Anyone is welcome to join us on this rural route across the beautiful Essex countryside - whether you are a dog owner or not. Just remember your wellies as it is likely there will be plenty of muddy feet and paws. It is such a great event - you'd be barking mad to miss it."

As part of the event's launch the hospice is once again hosting its ever-popular Cutest Canine Competition - and the charity is calling on local pet owners to enter their favourite photograph of their pet to win a hamper of doggy goodies and the chance to officially start the Winter Walkies event.



More than 200 walkers are expected to take part in 2019 Winter Walkies

email your news to community@hertsessexnews.co.uk

Voting for the St Clare Cutest Canine Competition will run from January 21 to 25 on the charity's Facebook page.

All entries are due by noon on Friday, January 18 and entrants must

have registered for Winter Walkies 2019 in order to be eligible for the competition.

Registration costs £10 for adults and £5 for children, which includes a free soup, dog rosette and certi-

icates for children. Walkers can also sign up on the day. Please be aware that the route is not suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs. This year's event is sponsored by Epping-based vets, Forest Veterinary Centre.

For information and to register, call Emma Broadbent on 01279 773754, email: emma.broadbent@stclarehospice.org.uk or see stclarehospice.org.uk/event/winter-walkies/

YOUR EDUCATION NEWS

Students test their engineering skills to design a working robot

COMPUTER WHIZZ KIDS
DISCOVER WHAT GOES
ON BEHIND THE SCENES

YEAR 9 students from Burnt Mill Academy and Epping St John's School and Year 10 students from BMAT STEM Academy took on the task of designing and programming a robot to carry out a specific task.

The day at BMAT STEM Academy gave students an insight into computer science and an understanding that it not only incorporates maths, but imagination and creativity.

Altay Ozkan, senior leader at BMAT STEM Academy, said: "While young people today understand how to operate computers, they do not necessarily understand how they work.

"I teach computer science and like to focus on the processes that go on behind the scenes.

"We can be very technically minded in terms of using computers, but we don't always know why they work how they do.

"In order for something to work, we have to know how to programme it.

"With this challenge, we broke it right down.

"They now appreciate there is a lot of thought that goes into how robots and computers work."

Primary schools from within the BMAT family of schools will take part in a similar challenge in the new year.



Teenagers from Harlow and Epping went head to head with a Lego challenge

Cyclists emerge victorious after 30-mile fundraiser

STUDENTS at Harlow's first specialist STEM school have got on their bikes to provide extra facilities.

BMAT STEM Academy opened in the town in September, offering a unique curriculum to students from Year 10 around the subjects of science, technology, engineering and maths.

With the youngest students aged 14, it was felt important to create opportunities for them to let off steam during their breaks from lessons.

As a way of raising funds to provide table tennis tables and yoga mats, 11 students took part in a 30-mile cycle from the school to the Olympic Park in Stratford, London.

Head of School Lisa Tooley said: "We want to make sure every child is catered for

and looked after mentally and physically.

"Our new yoga sessions will look after students' mental health and wellbeing and provide an outlet for them to do something different during their breaks and at lunchtime.

"We have a number of keen cyclists in school and so we thought it would be a nice challenge for them to take part in a fundraising bike ride. We had seven punctures along the way, which students had to fix, and it was a physically exhausting ride. The conditions were quite tough as it had rained the night before. But, everyone completed the challenge and we are very proud of them for that."

The group raised £590 to provide the school with its new equipment.



Eleven students from BMAT STEM Academy cycled from the school to the Olympic Park in Stratford

Children get close to giraffes and meet zookeepers on inspiring trip

DID you know, there are 40 types of penguin?

That is just one of the many facts Year 1 and 2 pupils from Freshwaters Primary Academy, in Harlow, learned on a trip to Colchester Zoo.

The school trip gave pupils an opportunity to learn from a zookeeper as well as seeing and feeding a variety of animals.

Having worked on the topic of zoo animals in class - with Year 2 reading *Lost and Found* which features a lost penguin, and science and geography lessons

focusing on penguins, the children were excited to get up close to them during the trip.

Humera Hamid, Year 2 teacher, said: "The expressions on the children's faces were priceless when they saw the penguins swim over us in the tunnel aquarium."

"It was fantastic we could give our pupils a life experience they will remember."

"As teachers, it is so lovely to be able to spend time with our pupils outside of school and to socialise with them to really get to know them."

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Children had a visit to Colchester Zoo

School trip to the West End voted a roaring success by grateful pupils

A PARTNERSHIP with Disney has seen children from across the BMAT group of schools take opportunities otherwise out of reach.

Cristin Casey, director of performing arts for the Trust, is on the Disney Theatrical Teachers Advisory Board.

Disney offers discounted tickets to schools with limited resources and pupils who are first-time theatre goers through an outreach scheme.

BMAT schools have been offered the chance to watch West End productions *Aladdin* and *The Lion King* for just £12 and £10 per person.

Amy Dias, head of school at Freshwaters Primary Academy in Harlow, was able to take 50 pupils to the theatre as a result of the scheme.

She said: "Some of our pupils had never been inside a theatre before; the whole atmosphere and environment was a new experience for them. They were absolutely mesmerised."

"Because they know the stories and music of *Aladdin* and *The Lion King*, it really helped them to engage."

"It was an amazing experience and we want to bring more of that to our children."

"It makes such a big difference." The Lamplight Scheme gives students access to *Aladdin*, as well as the opportunity to attend a pre-show question and answer session with the production team.

Mrs Casey, who co-ordinates performing arts at schools in Harlow, Epping and Stansted in Essex and Newham in London, said: "We are giving our children opportunities they might not otherwise have access to."

"Our children are not limited by any factors, such as finances or where they are from. They are getting access to high quality cultural and performing arts experiences."

"At BMAT we strive to ensure opportunities are available for all of our children to inspire them and unlock their passions and potential."

"Trips like this open their eyes, raise aspirations and help to bring context to what they are learning in the classroom."

Disney has also offered to host workshops at BMAT schools to give young people a further insight into professional theatre production.

■ 37 students from Burnt Mill Academy, in Harlow, watched *Aladdin*

■ 30 Year 7 students from Royal Docks Academy, in Newham, saw *The Lion King*

■ Epping St John's School, in Epping, took 22 students to see *Aladdin*

■ 30 Year 5 and 20 Year 6 pupils from Freshwaters Primary Academy, in Harlow, watched *Lion King* and *Aladdin*, respectively

■ 54 Year 2 pupils from Little Pardon Primary Academy, in Harlow, watched *Aladdin*



30 Year 7 students from Royal Docks Academy, in Newham, saw *The Lion King*

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Harlow

■ **WALKING FOOTBALL:** 50-plus fitness group. A great way to keep fit and newcomers are welcome to come along and give it a try. £3 per session 3G pitch.

Hosted by Paringdon Sports Club. Session times Mondays 4-5pm; Thursdays 10am - 12pm; Sundays 2-3pm.

Please call Dave on 07980 578201 for more details.

■ CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION:

Present Arts exhibition until December 23. Tuesday - Friday 10am - 5pm, Sunday 2 - 4pm.

Maintaining The Gallery's high standard, the emphasis in the Christmas exhibition is on works of art which are affordable.

Artists who have studios at the Mill are represented along with regular exhibitors, showing artworks in glass, decorative and functional ceramics, textiles, original prints, silver jewellery, paintings and sculpture.

New this year are intriguing etchings, small colourful paintings, and highly usable glassware.

Several artists new to The Gallery will also be included in the exhibition which is a feast for the eye and is a great opportunity to acquire that unique and special present, something new for the home, individual cards, or even hand made decorations for the Christmas tree.

■ **SIX-A-SIDE LEAGUE:** The leagues take place on Wednesday & Thursday evenings at Passmores Academy in Harlow. All games are FA refereed, footballs provided & league tables, fixtures, results all updated on our website. For more info call Football Mundial on 01937 841 440 or teams can enter online at www.footballmundial.com

Roydon

■ **FITNESS CLASS:** 50 plus fitness group. Move It or Lose It, takes place on Tuesdays from 1.30 to 2.30pm at Roydon Village Hall.

All abilities, men and women welcome. £5 per session.

Call 07974 721527 for more information.

In the Village Hall, High Street Orwell from 10am to 4pm.

■ **SATURDAY MARKET:** December 8 from 10am-2pm in the Village Hall CM19 5HH. Bread, eggs, honey, juice, chutneys, meat, sausage rolls, pasties, shepherd's pies, cheese, cakes, flavoured gins, sweets, wood turning, gifts, soft furnishings, candles, children's clothes, jewellery, crafts, candles, horseshoe art, paintings, crochet, Forever Living, greetings cards and historical maps and prints will be with us. Refreshments will be run to raise money for Roydon Pre-School. Free entry.

Rushden

■ **LACE MAKING:** The Rushden Lace Club meets on the first Monday of the month in the village hall, and all types of lace are made under the expert tuition of Bridget Cook.



Musically gifted Elf Band entertained guests with their traditional songs

Day of fun gets the Harvey Centre into Christmas spirit

THE Harvey Centre in Harlow kicked off Christmas in spectacular style with a day of free special events and entertainment recently.

The centre was filled with festive cheer as customers were joined by a host of extraordinary entertainers including two hilarious kings, who spent the day amusing shoppers of all ages with their gags and ridiculous props.

Joining them were the festive market traders who showed off their catalogue of weird gadgets including a sprouting catapult and Christmas cracker safety goggles.

Bringing a further touch of comedy to the event, the Sugar Plump Fairies re-interpreted the famous

story of The Nutcracker in their own special way. Plus a musically-gifted Elf Band entertained guests with traditional songs including Jingle Bell Rock and Winter Wonderland.

Everyone joined in and danced with the band as they taught shoppers their Elf Shuffle and got everyone into the Christmas spirit.

To add to the music madness an amazing mobile piano was driven around the centre by a madcap "nun" called Sister Ruth.

She stopped to entertain families using comedy banter, hilarious dance moves, facial contortions, sound effects and unusual renditions of some favourite festive songs.

Her tongue-in-cheek comedy act

performed on a baby grand piano, built onto an electrically powered vehicle definitely had the wow factor.

Finally the Granny Turismo duo were at the event, ready to tell tales of the good old days of Christmas past. Riding their souped-up shopping trolleys, complete with racing car sound effects and festive music, around the centre they created laughter and mayhem wherever they went.

The Harvey Centre would also like to announce that the centre will be open for late night shopping on Thursday, December 13, and then from Monday, December 17 to Saturday, December 22.

To give shoppers extra time to prepare for Christmas, the centre will be open until 7pm on each of these days.

The centre's Santa's Grotto is now open for children to enjoy and this year is bigger and better than ever before and styled as a giant cookie house.

Bryan Young, centre manager at The Harvey Centre said: "We're thrilled at the success of our Christmas launch event."

"The entertainment provided a great mix of comedy and nostalgia, which went down really well with customers throughout the day - truly getting them in the festive spirit."

Beginners are welcome to join the group, where tea, coffee and biscuits are supplied - although you will need to take your own lunch.

For more information, call Eva on 01763 288357.

Sandon

■ **GREEN FINGERS:** Sandon Gardeners' Club meets every second Monday of the month at Sandon Village Hall at 7.30pm.

If you have an interest in gardening, go along and join.

New members are always welcome. Contact chairman John Handley at: johnhandley5@btinternet.com for more.

Sawbridgeworth

■ **MORRIS MEET:** Fiddlers' Brook Morris meet every Tuesday at 8pm at Allens Green Village Hall near Sawbridgeworth.

Newcomers are welcome to go along and give it a try for fun, exercise and friendship and to help keep a tradition going. Musicians also welcome.

Call 01279 723707 or email neilandgillmunro@aol.com or see our Facebook page.

■ **DEMENTIA SUPPORT:** Hertswise offers fun, stimulating activities delivered in a relaxed and friendly environment, for people living with Dementia, memory loss or mild cognitive impairment as well as their carers.

At The Hailey Centre, 18 Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth CM21 9AS, every Wednesday 9.30 to 11.30am. £5, no charge for carers or NOK. Public car park next door.

To book your place or for more information please call 0300 123 40

44. You can also simply turn up on the day.

Standon

■ **CREATIVE LITTLE ONES:** Art, craft and messy play classes are held for under fives.

The sessions are held on Wednesdays between 1pm and 1.45pm at Standon Village Hall.

Go along and have some creative fun with your little one.

Email Becky to book a free trial at: artexplorers1@gmail.com or visit: www.artexplorers.co.uk for more information.

■ **TEEN DANCE:** DDMIX (Diverse

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Hospital helps patients cope with COPD in the cold



The respiratory team demonstrate the MyCOPD app

COLD weather heightens risks of illness, but for some people winter poses more dangers than most.

People with respiratory diseases can be more prone to complications from flu and other winter ailments – but now clinicians at Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust, have an app specifically for patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) – a major respiratory illness.

COPD is a debilitating condition that affects the lungs and airways, making breathing difficult.

On World COPD Day, Princess

Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust (PAHT) encouraged patients, relatives and the public to find out more about the condition.

They also urged patients to take up the option of a free flu vaccination.

The hospital has been providing immunisation to patients over 65 years old, but this year has started offering the vaccination to patients under the age of 65 who are attending outpatient appointments and are in the at-risk group.

World COPD Day is an opportunity to bring attention to a condi-

tion that affects an estimated three million people in the UK, according to NHS Choices.

Patients in west Essex are now benefiting from a pilot scheme and have been using the app to manage their condition.

The MyCOPD app provides a range of advice and information, such as inhaler technique, a pulmonary rehabilitation exercise programme and tips on managing an exacerbation of the condition.

The respiratory team held an information stand at the hospital when staff demonstrated the app,

and patients not already using the app could see for themselves its many uses.

Bindu Karthikeyan, respiratory nurse specialist, said: “Nobody wants to be in hospital, and this app can help you control your condition and lead a more normal life; so make sure to ask about the app if you are a COPD patient attending the hospital or visiting your GP surgery. Ask for the respiratory liaison nurse who will be pleased to help.”

As PAHT is the acute trust offering the treatment for the wider community, once the pilot study is

successful, Public Health England, the sponsor of MyCOPD app, may expand the service to other Clinical Commissioning Group areas.

Sharon McNally, director of nursing and midwifery, said: “COPD is a long-term condition that can be particularly unpleasant in winter, so I am very pleased that we are able to offer the app, reflecting the NHS message ‘help us help you.’”

She added: “Being immunised is a first step in fighting flu, so we would encourage all at risk groups to have the free vaccination.”

Dance Mix) dance fitness classes are held every Wednesday at Standon Village Hall for teenagers between 5.45 and 6.30pm, term time.

No dance experience is required, just lots of enthusiasm and a pair of trainers.

It costs £5, which can be paid on the door each week.

Call Julie on 07971 699615 or visit: dancejamacademy.co.uk for more details.

■ **FIT FOR ALL:** Pure Stretch releases muscular tension, develops core strength, and reduces mental and physical fatigue.

It is suitable for everyone, easy to

follow, sociable and light-hearted.

Call Denise, your local fitness instructor, for times and classes on 01920 823072 or 07703 277862.

■ **MUSICIANS AND MOVERS:** Put a jingle in your step and become a morris dancer.

Have a bash at Cotswold dance traditions with Standon Morris at practice sessions on Thursday evenings.

The mixed side welcomes anyone from 10 years old upwards.

No experience necessary, and it is free.

The group gathers from about 8pm

onwards in The Star before heading down to Standon Village Hall at 8.30pm. Musicians are also needed to play.

To find out more, call Catherine on 07808 969379 or email standon.morris@gmail.com

Widford

■ **PILATES CLASSES:** Mondays 6.45 to 7.45pm and 8 to 9pm. Friendly and welcoming classes.

Pilates helps you achieve a balance of mind and body plus focusing on stretching and strengthening the whole body to improve balance, muscle strength,

YOUR NEWS

We compile Your Community News pages two weeks in advance of publication. If you want to include a future event please make sure you tell us in plenty of time so our readers can come along

flexibility and posture.

For more information or to book your first complimentary class (limited places) contact Anne at Active Health

Pilates and More on 07717 333234 or email: activehealthpam@gmail.com or visit www.activehealthpilatesandmore.com



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anytime, **laptop,**
mobile, ipad
or **desktop.**

Deaths

Molly BANNISTER

Sadly passed away on
25th November 2018 aged 89 Years.

Loving Mum, Nan & Great Nan.
Molly will be deeply missed by all her
Family & Friends.

Funeral service will be held at
Parndon Wood Crematorium on
Wednesday 12th December at 1.00pm.

Family Flowers only please.
Donations, made payable to
'Isabel Hospice' may be sent c/o
Daniel Robinson & Sons,
79/81 South Street, Bishops Stortford,
CM23 3AL. Tel: 01279 655477

Alternatively, please visit the 'In Memory' page at
www.drobinson.co.uk

Lilian CORKE (Lil)

Sadly passed away on 16th November
2018 at Princess Alexandra Hospital
aged 96. Reunited with husband Fred.

Loved more than words can say by
daughters Linda, Jackie, Diane. Sons
in-law Tony, Jim. Grandchildren Donna,
Gareth, Corinna, Jamie, Stuart, Graeme
and her 7 Great-Grandchildren.
She was a very special person who
will be greatly missed by us all though
still always with us in our hearts and
memories.

Funeral will take place at St Mary
Magdalene Church Potter Street
on December 17th at 11 o'clock.

Flowers are welcome or donations to a
charity of your own choice c/o Daniel
Robinson & Sons Wych Elm, 426990.

To make a donation for
a loved one resting with
**DANIEL
ROBINSON
& SONS**

you can make a
donation by visiting the
In Memory
pages at

www.drobinson.co.uk

We get more than
1,000,000 visitors
every month
to our site

funeral-notices.co.uk

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a loved one resting with
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donation by visiting the
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at: www.drobinson.co.uk

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great online benefits

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Add tributes of condolence, light candles or
add a picture/video to any notice.

As a member you can save any death notice
that is important to you.

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www.drobinson.co.uk

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Harlow, Essex
(01279) 426990

79/81 South Street
Bishop's Stortford
(01279) 655477

Bullfields
Sawbridgeworth
(01279) 722476

Veronica GAISFORD "Vera"

Passed away on 1st December 2018, aged 95 years.

Much loved Wife of the late Roy and
Mother to Sally. She will be greatly missed.

Funeral service to be held at
St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford
on Thursday 13th December at 10.30am.
All enquiries to Daniel Robinson & Sons,
79/81 South Street, Bishop's Stortford, Herts,
CM23 3AL. Tel 01279 655477

Anthony HARMAN "Tony"

Sadly passed away on
22nd November 2018 aged 61 Years.

Loving Husband to Linda, Dad and Grandad.
He will be missed by all his Family & friends.

His Funeral Service will be held at
Parndon Wood Crematorium on
Friday 14th December at 10.45am.

Family Flowers only please.
No black to be worn.

Daniel Robinson & Sons,
Wych Elm, Harlow, CM20 1QP
Tel: 01279 426990

Michael (Mick) Edward McGINLEY (Mickymac)

Mick died
peacefully at
home on 19th
November. He
will be greatly
missed by family
and friends.
The funeral will
be on Friday,
14th December,
at 1pm at
Parndon Wood
Crematorium.
Family flowers
only. Donations
to St. Clare
Hospice can
be made via
Daniel Robinson
& Sons.



Birthdays

Add tributes online

family-notices.co.uk

William Stanley MARTIN (Bill)

Passed away peacefully
on 23rd November
2018, aged 92 years.

A dearly loved Dad,
Grandad, Great
Grandad and Great
Great Grandad, he will
be sadly missed by all
his family and friends.
Funeral Service to take
place at Parndon Wood
Crematorium, Harlow
on Monday 10th
December at 10.45am.

Family flowers only
please, but donations,
if desired, may be made
payable to PDASA and
sent c/o Peasgood &
Skeates, Shire Hill,
Saffron Walden, Essex
CB11 3AQ Tel 01799
523314.

Susan Ann RAVEN

Passed away at
Princess Alexandra
Hospital on
22nd November 2018.
Will be sadly missed by
her Husband David.

Funeral to take
place at Parndon
Wood Crematorium
on Tuesday 11th
December at 1pm.
Family flowers only
please, donations if
desired to
U.K Sepsis Trust.



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Doreen SMITH "Dot"



Passed away peacefully on
Friday 30th November 2018, aged 89 years.

Loving Mother, Grandmother and
Great Grandmother. Love you "Nan"
and miss you lots.

Funeral service to take place at
Parndon Wood Crematorium on
Friday 14th December 2018 at 3.15pm.
All welcome.

Family flowers only please but donations,
if desired, may be made payable to
'British Heart Foundation' and sent c/o
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CHILDS Hilda - Sadly passed away December 8th 1998. A much loved mother, always remembered and never forgotten. Love Andrew & Peter xx



Barbara MACKAY

7/12/2016

Time marches on
But not a day goes by
When I don't think of you my darling
All my love Forever & Always
Terry

WILLIAMS Robin PC - 30 Years ago you suddenly left us. We never said goodbye. Every day we miss you more. - Jenni, Amanda, Helen, Lee

Acknowledgements

ROSE Bobby - 31/5/1941 - 9/11/18. Carole, Karen and Paula would like to thank all who attended on Friday 30th November to say their good-byes. A massive thank you to Daniel Robinson for making an extremely sad day a perfect one.

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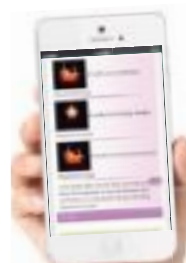


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FILM

Market forces



Lakeith Stanfield as Cassius Green and Danny Glover as Langston in *Sorry To Bother you*
PETER PRATO/UNIVERSAL

SORRY TO BOTHER YOU (15)

★★★★★

CHICAGO-BORN rapper Boots Riley makes his feature film directorial debut with an audacious, wildly inventive and frequently uproarious satire about workplace culture, black exploitation and rampant capitalism.

It's fair to say that *Sorry To Bother You* won't be everyone's tipples and there are madcap moments in Riley's script when the wheels threaten to come off this runaway train of thoughts.

However, patience and gargantuan suspensions of disbelief reap rewards over almost two hours, which simultaneously bamboozle, delight and astound.

The writer-director has a penchant for visual gags in background detail like a rogue photocopier, which churns out reams of

paper, creating a snowstorm of tumbling A4 around despairing employees.

Some visual flourishes are impossible to miss.

A stop-motion animated instruction video credited to Michel Gondry is a nod to inventive French director Michel Gondry and a flaccid pun on the male appendage, which features so prominently in the film's loopy final act.

Dialogue crackles, from a workplace protest that inspires one young woman to gush, "That scene was crazy, like Norma Rae!", to the Machiavellian CEO who perceives anyone who can analyse a problem and adapt as "a cunning raccoon".

The unlikely hero is Cassius Green (Lakeith Stanfield), known to friends as Cash.

He lives in the garage of his uncle Sergio

(Terry Crews) with activist girlfriend Detroit (Tessa Thompson).

Four months behind on the rent, Cash must find alternative accommodation unless he can raise the balance within two weeks.

He hopes a job as a telemarketer at Regal-View alongside friend Salvador (Jermaine Fowler) will answer his prayers.

"We're not mapping the human genome here," deadpans Cash's manager (Robert Longstreet), who instructs him to follow the script and maybe - just maybe - he will be promoted to a Power Caller desk on the top floor.

Cash's tentative first efforts to engage customers are dispiriting failures until an experienced co-worker (Danny Glover) imparts sage words.

"You want to make some money here, read the script with your white voice," he whispers.

Sure enough, when Cash (now voiced by David Cross) erases all traces of Oakland from his patter, he secures his first sale... then another.

In record time, he is courting the attention of Mr X (Omari Hardwick), who manages the Power Caller team, and Steve Lift (Armie Hammer), CEO of futuristic employer WorryFree.

Sorry To Bother You plays with madness as Stanfield's everyman becomes complicit in modern-day slavery on a grotesque scale.

Hammer has a blast in a small supporting role while Thompson is poorly served as the film's female lead but she relishes her character's standout scene of performance art, which incorporates dialogue from the 1985 martial arts film *The Last Dragon*.

Writer-director Riley holds firm to his ambitious and outlandish vision, and occasionally draws blood with his barbs.

ALSO OUT THIS WEEK



Robert Redford as Forrest Tucker in *The Old Man & The Gun*

ERIC ZACHANOWICH/
20TH CENTURY FOX

THE OLD MAN & THE GUN (12A)

★★★★★

ROBERT Redford makes his final screen appearance before retirement in David Lowery's gently paced crime caper - a (mostly) true story, which is also an unabashed valentine to the charismatic leading man.

Based on a 2003 article of the same title in *The New Yorker* magazine, *The Old Man & The Gun* possesses a simple, old-fashioned charm epitomised by the 82-year-old star at the film's emotionally molten centre.

Photographed in lustrous close-up, Redford beguiles us with each glance into camera as real-life bank robber Forrest Tucker, who ran rings around the authorities and escaped from San Quentin State Prison in a canoe.

Lowery pays homage to his star by lovingly re-appropriating footage from Redford's 1966 picture *The Chase* as one of these close brushes with the law.

"Looking sharp will take you a long, long way," coos Forrest at one point.

Redford could almost be reflecting on his own ascent into the pantheon of well-heeled Hollywood greats in such classics as *Butch Cassidy And The Sundance Kid*, *The Sting*, *All The President's Men* and *Out Of Africa*.

In Lowery's picture, he discharges that star wattage one final time in swoonsome exchanges with fellow Oscar winner Sissy Spacey. Dialogue between the couple is light and playful, kindling a smouldering on-screen partnership that casts a satisfying glow over every frame.

The film concentrates on events in 1981 when Forrest pulls off a series of bank robberies, often with ageing associates Teddy (Danny Glover) and Waller (Tom Waits).

During the getaway from one hold-up, Forrest evades police by stopping to help a stranded motorist called Jewel (Sissy Spacey).

Sparks of attraction fly over a cup of coffee.

Meanwhile, Texas detective John Hunt (Casey Affleck) becomes fascinated by Forrest's far from illustrious career on the wrong side of the law and is secretly relieved that the old timer is always one step ahead of the police.

The Old Man & The Gun is the cinematic equivalent of a warm hug: comforting, heartfelt and undeniably pleasurable in the moment.

Lowery's script stages a couple of tense robberies with aplomb but characterisation always takes priority, and there is a lovely scene of verbal to-and-fro between Forrest and John in the corridor of a roadside diner.

Redford remind us why he has been setting hearts aflutter on screen for more than 55 years and Affleck is an appealing sparring partner in a game of cat and mouse where everyone, including us, wins.



Tessa Thompson as Detroit with Lakeith Stanfield
PETER PRATO/UNIVERSAL

SOUND OUT

RIDING high after finishing their fourth album and halfway through recording their fifth, Mumford & Sons are at a crossroads.

Looking back, the folk rockers recognise a time they were restricted by the music that made them famous. Looking forward, they see a 60-date world tour and a new-found creative freedom.

"We are in a particularly fertile, creative time," the band's banjoist and lead guitarist Winston Marshall says while sitting at a worn wooden table, tucked away upstairs at a bar in south London.

A few hundred people sit, eat and drink below in Flat Iron Square, a space that has become a cultural hub for the four-piece.

Over the course of an hour, members of the band traipse in and out of the room. Winston is contemplative and whimsical, while singer and multi-instrumentalist Ben Lovett sits behind sunglasses as he shares the story of how he came to own Omeara, the venue he opened in one of the seven railway arches dominating Flat Iron Square.

Then comes Marcus Mumford, namesake and de facto leader of the group, and, after him, bassist Ted Dwane. Both seem clear-minded, presumably focused by the completion of their fourth studio album, *Delta*.

Recorded with super producer and "mad genius" Paul Epworth (Adele, Rihanna, Florence And The Machine) in London's Church Studios, the album sees the group settle into their new identity as post-Americana troubadours.

After two albums of banjo-forward rabble-raising songs and one of unobjectionable indie rock, the group's latest effort sees them embrace a wider range of sounds.

Their most recent effort was influenced by the idea of "self-serving" modern love, the power of nature and, most poignantly, the spectre of death.

"I've felt much closer to death over the last couple of years," Marcus says as he puffs intermittently on an e-cigarette. "Partly personally, my family, but also with some trips with the charity War Child, who I am an ambassador for."

After returning from a trip to Mosul, a city in northern Iraq liberated from IS in late 2016, Marcus looked out the window of his west London home to see Grenfell Tower burning.

"Like most of the community who live in that part of the city, I went down and stayed involved. That's really, properly changed my life," he declares.

"I've been listening lots and I'm starting to do a bit more. It's been very affecting."

Since then, Marcus has remained involved, helping the survivors of the fire that claimed 72 lives. He raised money through charity football matches and continues to work with Grenfell United, a group supporting survivors and grieving families.

We make the music we want to make

Nearly 10 years after they shot to fame with *Sigh No More*, Mumford & Sons remain a fixture on the global touring circuit. The four-piece speak to **ALEX GREEN** about love, death and that divisive third album

Delta was also influenced by the birth of Marcus's second child with his wife, actress Carey Mulligan, a marriage that has attracted the lion's share of media attention around the band.

"The stakes get higher. I think it probably expands your capacity for empathy," he says of his child's birth last year.

"Especially seeing other people's children in really hard situations."

Asked about the effect of the band's gruelling tour schedule on his family life, Marcus remains pragmatic.

"It's no more difficult than any other job," he insists. "I don't think we have any complaints in that sense. It looks different because we are away for longer chunks than if we had nine-to-five jobs in London," he adds.

"But I think being away from family is something you have to do when you work."

This album also sees the group

collaborating more freely. Instead of the usual set-up – one frontman, guitarist, bass player and drummer – Mumford & Sons rotate their roles. The group are less of a band and "more of a collaboration between four songwriters than it is like a normal band dynamic", Ben explains.

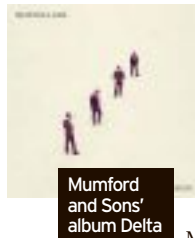
This may be one of the reasons they are so happy to poke fun at their choice of name, which portrays the group as a one-man band. In the past they've called it "rubbish".

"The name is for sure a misnomer but it feels like it's us now," Ben clarifies. "We kind of just got used to it."

Three years ago, Mumford & Sons released *Wilder Mind*, where they eschewed the folk sound to which they owe their success.

Instead, they recorded an album of what many critics considered mild-mannered indie rock.

The reception was lukewarm and sometimes scathing, and *Wilder Mind* sold only 500,000 copies – one million less than their charts-slating debut *Sigh No More*.



Mumford and Sons' album *Delta*



Mumford & Sons, from left, Winston Marshall, Marcus Mumford, Ben Lovett and Ted Dwane



VARIOUS ARTISTS - THE GREATEST SHOWMAN REIMAGINED

★★★★★

FROM sing-a-long cinema screenings, to school plays to this new take on the soundtrack, it seems we can't get enough of *The Greatest Showman*.

The Reimagined album is just that: popular artists putting their own spins on the most popular tracks. Opening with Panic! At The Disco and the rip-roaring *The Greatest Show*, Brendon Urie's vocals soar – followed by Pink with *A Million Dreams* (and the sweetest guest spot by her daughter Willow in the Reprise).

There isn't a weak cover on this album, and on five-piece a capella group Pentatonix's version of the *Greatest Show*, it is easy to forget there are no instruments involved.



BRYAN FERRY AND HIS ORCHESTRA - BITTER-SWEET

★★★★★

INSPIRED by his work on the soundtrack of the Sky Atlantic/Netflix series *Babylon Berlin* (set against the backdrop of Berlin's 1920s jazz scene), Bryan Ferry embarks on a comprehensive reinterpretation of his back catalogue through the lens of jazz.

And despite Ferry's clearly retrospective aim, *Bitter-Sweet* feels fresh – a testimony to the sheer modernity of jazz.

His music bends itself to the free-flowing feel of the genre and *Bitter-Sweet* sees Ferry in his element. It's a joy to hear.



RITA ORA - PHOENIX

★★★★★

PHOENIX is a fitting name for an album that might never have happened in the wake of very public spat with ex-boyfriend Calvin Harris and a long-running feud with her former label, Jay-Z's own Roc Nation. Given that Ora has had six years to write and refine *Phoenix*, the 28-year-old's highly anticipated second LP is a serviceable collection of pop songs, but it lacks real kick.

First Time High marries glossy production with a feel-good dancehall swing while *Summer Love*, featuring the world-conquering Rudimental, is a decent crack at a drum and bass anthem.

There are no bad songs and there's certainly enjoyment to be had – but was it worth the wait?



MUSIC

LIVE MUSIC



Slow Readers Club play Southend

The Slow Readers Club, Chinnerys, Southend, April 6, 2019

NEXT year promises to be a big one for indie pop rockers The Slow Readers Club who set off on a 32-date UK tour in the spring.

They hit the road in support of their album *Build a Tower*, which was a top 20 hit this year and made it to No 1 in the cassette chart.

"This is the first opportunity we've had to do a full on UK tour," said frontman Aaron Starkie. "Up until this point we've all had day jobs to work around, but 2019 is the year we go at it properly, no more messing about. We've had tons of people ask us to play all over the UK so here we go."

Tickets are available from theslowreadersclub.com.

DOWN THE PUB



King Salami and one of the three Cumberlands

KING Salami & the Cumberland 3 were a standout feature of the BBC programme *The UK's Best Part-Time Band* a couple of years back. They didn't win the Rhod Gilbert presented show but their performances were eye-catching and the London four-piece are heading to the Railway, Southend, this Saturday. Well worth a watch!

GIGS for December 7-9

- Star & Garter, Moulsham Street, Chelmsford: Friday - Electrum; Saturday - The Class
- Cricketers, Southend: Friday - Rollin' Machine; Saturday - Bif Bam Pow
- The Bull, Colchester: Saturday - Scooby
- Waggon at Wix: Saturday - Five Mile High
- Rose & Crown, Bishops Stortford: Saturday - Wolf & Man
- Golden Fleece, Chelmsford: Friday - Barney & The Rubbles; Saturday - The Heaters
- Railway Hotel, Clifftown Road, Southend: Saturday - King Salami & the Cumberland 3
- Boars Head, Braintree: Saturday - Yellowhouse
- Cow & Telescope, Southend: Friday - Expose; Saturday - Illicit
- Cock Inn, Bishops Stortford: Saturday - Fubar
- Black Horse, Chelmsford: Saturday - Generators
- The Swan, Wickford: Saturday - Half Stoned
- Royal British Legion, Wickford: Saturday - Beggar
- Welcome Club, Stanford-le-Hope: Friday - The Heaters; Saturday - Mega Sea Noise
- United Brethren, New Writtle Street, Chelmsford: Saturday - Delta Ladies; Sunday - Bex Marshall

Rebels with a cause

MORE THAN 30 YEARS AFTER MAKING THEIR MARK ON THE TOP 40, THEATRE OF HATE ARE BACK. FRONTMAN KIRK BRANDON TELLS **MARTIN NEAL** WHAT KEEPS THEM GOING AFTER ALL THIS TIME



WHEN Kirk Brandon was an angry young man consumed with the usual teenage angst, punk rock was the obvious outlet for his raw emotions.

Best known for being the frontman with Theatre Of Hate, who reached the top 40 with *Do You Believe In The Westworld* in 1982, he's 62 now and has gone on to make his mark with *Spear Of Destiny*, *Dead Men Walking* and as a solo artist.

But the inner flame that first sparked into life when he was a young lad still burns fiercely. And what's more, Brandon says that age and experience means he can articulate that better than he ever could.

Despite spitting back in 1983, Theatre Of Hate have been doing their stuff again since 2005, having already reconvened on a pretty regular basis in between times.

And they hit the road last week for the start of a pre-Christmas tour that calls in at Chinnerys in Southend on Friday, December 14.

With John 'Boy' Lennard's screaming sax and Saffron Walden-born Stan Stammers' pumping bass still sounding just as good, ToH remain a formidable live act, with old favourites like *Westworld*, *Rebel Without A Brain* and *Legion* mingling nicely with more recent offerings.

"I don't want to sound poncey but it's a great privilege to make music and that people listen to it and enjoy it," says Brandon. "It's like, 'well thank you'. I'm trying to be humble because after all these years people could say 'aah forget it mate', but they haven't."

"People are taking an interest in the band again, we're getting more press and more people are turning up at the shows so it's brilliant."

One of the biggest disappointments in music is seeing a band that once really meant something going through the motions. There's no chance of that happening with ToH.

"When you look back it's hard to work out whether you were more angry at the world or yourself," says Brandon as we talk about the emotions that led to him starting The Pack, and then ToH.

"I often say I was young, slim and dim, meaning you knew something was wrong but you just didn't know how to articulate it well enough. When you get old enough and you're grinding away, you realise it's like 1984 all the time but nobody told anybody. But if they did, they hid it!"

As John Lydon once told us, of course, anger is an energy.

"It's definitely a tool for articulating what the hell it is for what you feel or want to get across, emotional stuff," agrees Brandon.

And there's still plenty of reasons to be angry, all these years later.

"Perhaps more so than ever," he ventures. "The government, Trump, and more importantly what goes on in the world. I've got a daughter who's 23 and when I'm gone she's going to be left with not a lot."

"It's going to be a really weird world in 20 years' time - gigantic food shortages and inevitably we'll start fighting. But this time they won't be fighting over territory, they'll be fighting over resources."

"I know we all laugh at the millennials for being clueless but they're not going to be clueless forever. They're going to wake up and find themselves in a very strange world. They're going to find themselves strangers in a strange land, as the book says."

But enough of the doom and gloom. The tour is under way, hot on the heels of an acoustic tour in which Brandon was accompanied by just a cellist.

With *Spear of Destiny* still a going concern and a potential reunion of supergroup *Dead Men Walking*, there are plenty of pies available for Brandon to dip his finger into.

"There are certain constraints on what I can and can't do because, with Theatre of Hate, three of the guys live in America," he explains. "We're 30, 35 years down the road

now and people have got wives and lives.

"If you're going to haul someone out of their life, it's got to be pretty organised and first off you've got to find out if people can do it and that's quite hard because sometimes they can't do it for a year or years even."

"When people are available and they're up for it, which they pretty much are anyway, then we do it. They've got lives, they're not just hanging about."

Good news for fans of *Dead Men Walking* is that this project is likely to be reignited before too long.

"I've been talking to Jake Burns (of *Stiff Little Fingers*) and he really wants to do it and I really want to do it," reveals Brandon. "It's great fun and of course you've got all these singers around you to carry the show. It's a tag team! We really hope to do it next year."

There will also be some new Theatre of Hate releases.

"We're going in and recording two old and two new songs and putting them on 10 inch records, on coloured vinyl, which is really cool," explains Brandon. "People are really into this stuff now. You get a much better sound on vinyl."

"We're just releasing one now which is called *Sensou*, a Japanese word (it means 'war'). There are only going to be so many of them - they'll be limited, it's not like 'let's make 20,000'. We are recording another two



Theatre of Hate have been a going concern again since 2005



Theatre of Hate play live in Southend later this month

in the next couple of weeks and do another two.

"We're going to do them in blocks of four – two new songs, two old – until there is an album's worth of material there and then we will put them on vinyl and CD as a normal kind of release. It's a different way of doing it because a lot of people collect Theatre of Hate stuff and they can be obsessive about it – but that's cool!"

And it's important for Brandon to keep putting releases out on good old vinyl.

"You can get all that depth in it rather than it just going past you when it's digital,"

he says. "These are silly terms, but there's depth in vinyl and there's compression in vinyl, whereas with digital it's just a screen. You can read spaces and get the depth in it."

He's far from being the only musician who feels like that, too. Technology has advanced at a phenomenal rate since Brandon first started making music yet, it seems, some of the old ways just can't be beaten.

"When I started I was basically using 1950s technology, it hadn't changed," he recalls. "Now you find bands like the Foo Fighters, and a lot of American acts especially, really want that analogue sound. And

if you want an analogue sound, you've got to have an analogue desk. Which means you go through valve microphones and valve compressors

"So basically it's an analogue world and they want that because it's so much better. It's more rounded, it's got compression and depth and it affects you in a nice way whereas digital stuff just goes behind a screen.

"So if you're going to listen to something you really like, you really want it on vinyl. This why a lot of American bands want that sound – people can argue about it until they're blue in the face but it's a better sound."

New technology has its benefits of course.

"The web has given young people access to music they would not otherwise be able to access and people can just go into their bedrooms or basements and make music, as people have and have number ones that way," says Brandon. "It's not punk rock but it's made it accessible.

"I see young people, alternative people, at our shows and I think 'you weren't around 30 years ago'. So it's a really cool thing that they are interested and it can only be from the web."

Young or old, ToH's date at Chinnerys promises to be a cracking night.

■ Theatre Of Hate play Chinnerys, Southend, on Friday, December 14. For tickets visit www.seetickets.com

LIVE MUSIC



The Hives come to Audley End
DIJANA CAPAN

The Hives, The Fratellis and The Sandinistas, Audley End Outdoor Concert, July 13

ANOTHER day has been announced for next summer's Audley End Outdoor Concerts and this one has a distinct indie rock flavour. Topping the bill are Swedish band The Hives who exploded onto the scene in the early 2000s with the anthemic Hate To Say I Told You So and memorable live shows. The Hives were pivotal in the garage rock revival and are still going strong so expect their customary crowd-pleasing show at Audley End where there'll be joined by The Fratellis and The Sandinistas. Tickets are on sale from this Friday, December 7.



Jason Williamson of Sleaford Mods
BEN BIRCHALL

Sleafford Mods, Chinnerys, April 25, 2019

ELECTRO-PUNK upstarts Sleafford Mods have just announced a UK tour for next year to promote new album *Eton Alive* which is released on February 22 the first release on their own label, *Extreme Eating*. Consisting of 12 tracks, the album is a typically bruising and uncompromising look at the state of the nation in these turbulent times. The duo call into Chinnerys, Southend, on April 25 where you can expect a raucous show.



Squeeze to play the Cliffs Pavilion in October 2019
ROB O'CONNOR

Squeeze, Cliffs Pavilion, October 27, 2019

IT'S looking ahead somewhat but Squeeze have just announced that they'll be back on the road in the autumn of next year and will be calling into the Cliffs Pavilion, Southend, on October 27. The evergreen group are calling the tour 'The Difford And Tilbrook Songbook 2019' which will see them play their extensive list of hits as well as delving into their back catalogue to unearth some lesser-known gems from a career spanning four decades. Special guests on the tour are 80s electro-pop group Heaven 17. Tickets are on sale now.

FOOD & DRINK

BOW WOW
BROWNIES
AND ICE
CREAM

SERVES 6



INGREDIENTS

90g all-purpose flour; ¼ tsp baking soda; ½ tsp salt; 100g granulated sugar; 3 tbsp unsalted butter; 2 tbsp whole milk; 450g milk chocolate chips; 2 large eggs; ½ tsp pure vanilla extract; your favourite vanilla ice cream, for serving; chocolate sauce, for serving

METHOD:

1. Preheat the oven to 325°F/165°C, with a rack in the middle position. Butter an 8-by-8-in [20-by-20-cm] square baking pan and set aside.

2. In a small bowl, whisk the flour, baking soda, and salt. Set aside.

3. In a medium saucepan over medium heat, combine the sugar, butter, and milk. Bring to a boil. Remove the pan from the heat and add 270g of the chocolate chips. Stir until the chocolate is melted and smooth.

4. Add the eggs and vanilla to the chocolate. Stir until blended and smooth.

5. Gradually add the flour mixture to the chocolate, stirring until just combined. Spread the batter evenly into the prepared pan. Sprinkle the top of the batter with the remaining 180g of chocolate chips.

6. Place the pan in the oven and bake for 25 to 30 minutes, rotating the pan about halfway through the baking time to ensure even cooking, until the brownies are set and the edges looked baked.

7. Remove the brownies from the oven and place on a wire rack to cool in the pan. Cut the brownies into six large squares. Serve topped with vanilla ice cream and chocolate sauce, if desired.

FAYRE
OF THE
DOGGMARION McMULLEN
GOES BARKING MAD
FOR RAPPER SNOOP
DOGG'S FAVOURITE RECIPES

SNOOP Dogg says he hopes his new cookbook will bring families together.

The American rapper has released *From Crook to Cook*, which contains his favourite meals including OG (original gangster) chicken and waffles, mile-high omelette and dirty south gumbo.

Snoop Dogg – known for hits such as *Gin and Juice* and *Drop It Like It's Hot* – decided to release a collection of recipes after appearing alongside US chef Martha Stewart for their show *Martha & Snoop's Potluck Dinner Party*.

The 47-year-old says: "I believe when food was brought to the world it was brought as a celebration of family and coming together and rejoicing and having fun and eating together, that's what food was brought to this Earth for."

He says his culinary journey

started out of necessity when he had a young family and did not like what other people were cooking.

California-born Snoop Dogg, real name Calvin Cordozar Broadus Jr, adds: "And learning how to do it from watching television shows and just being a student of cooking, being around my mother, my aunts and family members who would always cook."

In his book he discusses the "high cuisine" he has enjoyed since becoming one of the most successful rappers of his era but says "I've got to have my fried baloney sandwiches to level everything back off".

Here's three of his recipes to try at home.



From Crook to Cook: Platinum Recipes from Tha Boss Dogg's Kitchen by Snoop Dogg (Chronicle Books, £17.99)
Pictures by Antonis Achilleos and Heather Gildroy

IF YOU'VE been paying attention you'll know I've shared some white wine ideas for Christmas. This week I'm starting down the road of the reds.

It could be a long road to travel, but I'm doing it in two journeys – this week, light, fruity, savoury, complex – next week more robust rich reds.

What does that mean for your Christmas dinner? I much prefer lighter fruity reds with a festive plate of flavours which can have so many mix and match combinations. A robust red can be overpowering – but if you love it, then you jolly well drink it.

Let's move to my first choice. **Ursa Major Rioja Tempranillo** (£6.50, Spar) is a very accessible Rioja which delivers bright red fruits on the nose and soft tannins

RAISE
A GLASS

WITH JANE CLARE



and the same red fruits in the mouth. It is unoaked and retains a juicy freshness.

I love a fruity beajolais, and, if you didn't know, there are three styles you can buy. The basic Beajolais AC, then the next appellation is Beajolais Villages and finally, within the Beajolais Villages are the Beajolais Crus, a handful of villages with their own distinctive tastes.

For Christmas, Lidl has the crus wine **Françoise**



Dubessy Fleurie (£7.99). Fleurie is one of the most popular styles which is fresh and juicy with raspberries and a shake of pepper.

By contrast, a much more complex crus wine is **Chateau des Jacques Moulin A Vent 2016** (RRP £19.60, Sainsbury's) which is dark and spicy, savoury and complex. Very tasty and elegant.

A lighter, softer beajolais which will go with every course, is **Louis Jadot Combe Aux Jacques Beajolais-Villages 2016** (RRP £11, Tesco and Ocado).

A wine I enjoyed testing for you guys is **KWV The Mentors Petit Verdot 2016** (£14.99, slurp.co.uk, right). Petit verdot is a grape usually taking a back seat in a



blend, but here the South African producers have pushed it centre stage. It has a flash of cherries, spice, black fruits and pencil shavings. Trust me. Pencil shavings.

Finally, if a pinot noir is your preference (and it is mine!) **Tesco Finest New Zealand Marlborough Pinot Noir 2017** (£8.50) is well worth the price.

Good pinot noir usually retails well above this, but it's no slouch by comparison. That wonderful earthiness is there in spades and it's got enough about it to give the parsnips and sprouts a run for their money. Reminded me of a football team I support. Goes down a little too easily. **Also in my glass...** Gingerbread. Sounds very Christmassy, doesn't it. Asda's

seasonal offering of **Extra Special Gingerbread Gin Liqueur** (£12) has an amazingly moreish nose of gingerbread (the clue is in the name I guess) and even more so, of caramel and cinnamon. It tastes soft and unctuous, not harsh in the least. I loved it. A pal saw it in my kitchen and said she adds it to prosecco!

Breaking news ... I've just read that **Aldi's Gingerbread Gin Liqueur** (£9.99, pictured left) has won a gold medal at the Spirits Business Global Liqueur Masters. That's another tip for free. You see, I keep on giving this Christmastime.

■ JANE is a member of the Circle of Wine Writers. Find her on social media as One Foot in the Grapes.



INGREDIENTS:

150g light brown sugar;
1 tbsp paprika;
1 tbsp garlic powder;
1 tsp cracked black
pepper; 1 tsp salt; 1 tsp
cayenne pepper; 2 racks
(about 4 lb, 10 oz [2.1
kg] total) pork baby back
ribs; 430g barbecue sauce
For barbecue sauce
150g apricot jam; 65g ketchup;
2 tbsp Worcestershire Sauce; pinch of red
pepper flakes, mustard to taste

METHOD TO MAKE RIBS:

1. Preheat the oven to 300°F [150°C], with a rack in the middle position. Line a baking sheet with two layers of aluminium foil and set aside.
2. In a small bowl, stir together the brown sugar, paprika, garlic powder, black pepper, salt, and cayenne. Apply the rub to the ribs, coating both sides. Wrap each rack in aluminium foil and place on the prepared baking sheet in a single layer.
3. Place the ribs in the oven and roast for 1½ to 2 hours, testing at 1½ hours for doneness. The meat is ready when it's tender and easy to pull away from the bone. Remove the ribs from the oven and discard any pork juices from the pan. Leave the racks wrapped and set aside.
4. Preheat the broiler to its highest setting, with a rack in the top position.
5. Unwrap the ribs and brush the top side with a thick layer of barbecue sauce (see below right). Place the ribs under the broiler for about 10 minutes, or until deep brown.
6. Remove the ribs and let rest,

**BABY
GOT BACK
RIBS****SERVES 6**

covered, for 10 minutes.

7. Cut the racks into 2-rib portions. Serve warm with white bread, extra barbecue sauce on the side and lots of napkins.

To make the barbecue sauce:

1. While the pork chops cook, in a small bowl, stir together, the jam, ketchup, Worcestershire sauce, mustard, and red pepper flakes.

**INGREDIENTS:**

100g packed light brown sugar;
1tsp cracked black pepper; 1tsp red
pepper flakes; 8 slices thick-cut
bacon

METHOD:

1. Preheat the oven to 400°F [200°C], with a rack in the top third of the oven. Line a baking sheet with aluminium foil, place a wire rack on top of the foil, and set aside.
2. In a small bowl, stir together the brown sugar, black pepper and red pepper flakes.
3. Lay the bacon slices on the rack. Spread the brown sugar mixture evenly over the bacon.
4. Place the baking sheet in the oven and bake for 25 to 30 minutes, rotating the baking sheet halfway through the baking time to ensure even cooking. The bacon is done when it's crispy and glazed.
5. Remove the baking sheet from the oven and cool the bacon for five minutes on the rack. Serve warm.

**SNOOP'S
BILLIONAIRE
BACON****SERVES 4**

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HOTSEAT

I couldn't do what I do if it wasn't for Jools nailing the family stuff

What can you tell us about the new series of Jamie & Jimmy's Friday Night Feast?

IT'S the sixth series and feels like it's getting better and better as time goes on.

People are getting creative in how they consume TV content – on Netflix, Amazon, YouTube, catch-up, in all sorts of weird, wonderful and dynamic ways – but I think actually many of them want regular, trusted programmes at certain times of the week.

And on Friday evenings, it just fits. It's a nice balance of cooking, celebrities and campaigning.

Are the slots to be diners in the café still vastly over-subscribed?

IT'S always a massive response. The series is just a joy to make – the right show at the right time.

People have a little extra spring in their step on Fridays. They shop and cook differently at weekends, when it's more about comfort food and indulgence. We celebrate food in the same way, plus we're getting amazing superstar guests.

You've got some fantastic guests this series, including Danny DeVito. How was he?

HILARIOUS. He's a Hollywood legend and he came especially to see us – at the end of Southend Pier, two hours out of London, for a six-hour filming. That isn't normal.

On Jonathan Ross, you can get in and out in two hours so our show is a major time commitment. But people come because they like what we do and they love food.

Danny calls everyone baby... 'hey baby, thanks baby'.

What do you cook for him?

YOU'RE going to love Danny's story. We go back to his roots in Basilicata, where his grandparents came from.

He's never been there himself but that particular part of southern Italy was tough and full of poverty, especially after the war.

We get pictures in front of his grandparents' old house with the town's mayor.

The mayor's also the local baker and the deputy mayor makes olive oil and wine.

Every morsel of food cooked in the café that day was from the town

TV chef Jamie Oliver says Friday night is for cooking. **MARION McMULLEN** finds out about the celebs tucking into the new series of Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast

where his family comes from.

We got a traditional pasta shape and recipe that his grandparents would definitely have cooked.

We had archive pictures on the walls. He was genuinely moved. The mayor wrote him a letter saying the town was so proud of everything he'd achieved, how they have always seen him as one of their own and giving him the keys to the city.

Harry Hill is another guest this series. How was he?

BRILLIANT. As funny and chaotic as you'd expect. His story was an interesting one.

He used to be a doctor, spent some time working out in India and talked about his memories of how good the hospital canteen food was.

Our job was to try and relive that for him. So we found the hospital and one of the chefs from Harry's time was still there.

We got the actual recipes from him, then we recreated this thali, which is like a platter of different curries, with the bread that he remembered... on Southend Pier.

What about Stephen Fry?

HE WAS on banging form. I don't know how we're going to edit that show because it was too funny. Utterly brilliant.

We talked about everything from cake decorating to personal hygiene.

And Jodie Whittaker, aka the new Doctor Who?

SHE was wonderful. What you see is what you get with Jodie. She's a grafter, she's enthusiastic and she's everything you want her to be.

Just like Jessica Ennis, who's also on this series. Gold standard. Our first Dame on the show.

As a dad of girls, it's amazing to have these extraordinary female role models on the show.

How's your old mate and co-host Jimmy Doherty?

HE'S so good. I'm so lucky to work with Jimmy. I've got the advantage of having grown up with him since the age of two, so I know him inside out, frontwards and backwards.

Jimmy's always got a few shows on the go and he does more days' filming than anyone I know, so technically he's on fire but still loads of fun and beautifully daft.

He's a farmer, a butcher and nobody on the planet travels to as

many farms and food businesses around the world as he does.

Combine that knowledge with my cooking and we're a really good twosome.

Is he going to be your best man when you and Jools are getting married again?

YEAH! Me and Jools are going to renew our vows to celebrate our 20th anniversary.

We don't get out much or have too many parties, so we thought we'd give it a go. She loves the idea and thinks it's romantic.

I think 20 years is a massive achievement, and if we get to 40 years, we'll do it again.

What have you learned in 20 years of marriage?

BLOODY good question. To never hold grudges, move on, and just hang about. Don't go anywhere.

It's genuinely a wonderful thing and I'm so grateful to her. I couldn't do what I do without her nailing all the kids and family stuff.

We're a good team. She keeps me on my toes, doesn't take any sh*t, she's kind, she's funny...

At some point in life, you have to go 'I did good there, lucked out and punched well above my weight'.

■ Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast returns to Channel 4 on Fridays at 8pm.



Jamie Oliver, left, and above with wife Jools – the couple will be renewing their vows 20 years after tying the knot



Actor Danny DeVito



Jamie and Jimmy with Jodie Whittaker

Entertainment

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Christmas Concert Brentwood Choral Society present a seasonal mix of music, including 'Wenceslas' - a modern piece written by Bob Chilcott and based on the story of King Wenceslas. There will also be carols for audience. The choir will be joined by Bluebirds Children's Choir who will present their own set of Christmas music. The concert will take place on Saturday 8th December at 7pm, at Hutton & Shenfield Union Church, Roundwood Avenue CM13 2NA. Tickets include refreshments and programme. £10 01245 492481 or 01277 219579

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Since her arrival in the UK in 2015, sleek, majestic *Magellan* has built a fine reputation, and has been a welcome addition to the CMV fleet of traditional ocean-going cruise liners. Sailing from a choice of regional ports *Magellan* brings a touch of contemporary chic to the traditional welcome of the CMV cruise experience.



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In an age of vast, impersonal, floating hotels, 22,000-tonne *Marco Polo*, her profile marking her out as the epitome of sea-going elegance even before you've stepped aboard, is a beautiful ocean liner in the classic tradition. Offering high levels of comfort, sumptuous dining in stylish surrounds, and a warm welcome.



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Beautifully appointed 550-passenger *Astoria*, with her classic profile, fine lines and range of on-board amenities, is every inch the perfect complement to her sister ships. Originally built as a transatlantic liner and beautifully restored, *Astoria* offers all the comforts, convenience and a warm welcome that is the hallmark of all CMV operations.

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British Isles Discovery Midsummer	11 Jul	12	20%	£1,369	£689
Grand Baltic Cities & St Petersburg	15 May	15	25%	£1,629	£819
Majestic Fjordland	29 May	8	20%	£859	£429
Iceland & Northern Isles	15 Jun	13	20%	£1,489	£749
Canary Islands & Madeira	16 Oct	16	30%	£1,529	£769
Weekend to Amsterdam and Antwerp	31 Oct	4	25%	£329	£169
Sailing from Tilbury on board Marco Polo					
Arctic & Greenland Expedition Voyage	21 Jul	23	15%	£3,029	£1,519
Rotterdam Mini Cruise	12 Aug	3	25%	£199	£99
Sailing from Newcastle on board Magellan					
Baltic Cities & St Petersburg	4 May	15	25%	£1,599	£799
Majestic Fjordland	18 May	8	15%	£909	£459
Round Britain & River Seine	21 June	12	25%	£1,289	£649
Sailing from Newcastle on board Marco Polo					
Overnight Mini Cruise	14 Aug	2	25%	£89	£44
Sailing from Rosyth on board Marco Polo					
Faroes & Northern Isles	18 Aug	6	20%	£629	£319
Sailing from Portsmouth on board Marco Polo					
Special 75th D Day Anniversary	2 Jun	7	15%	£839	£419

2019 Cruise programme	Departs	Days	Save up to	First person from	Second person
Rouen Armada & River Seine	9 Jun	9	25%	£909	£459
Iceland & Northern Isles	17 Jun	13	25%	£1,329	£669
Sailing from Dundee on board Magellan					
Majestic Fjordland	19 May	8	15%	£909	£459
Iceland, Faroes & Northern Isles	9 Jun	14	25%	£1,519	£759
Round Britain & River Seine	22 Jun	12	15%	£1,459	£729
Scottish Isles & Faroes Experience	3 Jul	7	25%	£699	£349
Sailing from Liverpool on board Magellan					
Grand Fjordland Splendour	27 Jul	13	25%	£1,399	£699
Spain, Portugal & Gibraltar	8 Aug	11	25%	£1,139	£569
Sailing from Bristol on board Magellan					
British Isles Discovery	1 Sep	12	30%	£1,199	£599
Iceland's Land of Ice & Fire	12 Sep	13	25%	£1,329	£669
Sailing from Cardiff on board Marco Polo					
Iceland & Northern Isles	3 May	13	30%	£1,239	£619
Isles of Scilly & Honfleur Weekend	15 May	5	15%	£479	£239
Sailing from Hull on board Astoria					
Fjordland Splendour	12 Sep	9	20%	£929	£469
Baltic Cities & St Petersburg	20 Sep	15	25%	£1,529	£769
Norway & Land of the Northern Lights	12 Oct	4	25%	£1,349	£679

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BEAUTY COUNTER

ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT GOLD, THEY SAY, AND THAT'S TRUE FOR SKINCARE AS WELL, AS **KATIE WRIGHT** DISCOVERS

The gold standard

COMPARED to gloopy grey clay that dries to a hard, crackly covering, gold face masks sure are pretty – and there are thousands of photos on Instagram to prove it.

But are these bright, shiny pastes and foils really effective – or are they just designed so that you'll share a #maskie on social media and get more publicity for the brand?

You might think that gold skincare is a case of style over substance – and in cases where the product doesn't actually contain gold, that can be true – but experts say this precious metal really does have benefits for our skin.

"We know that gold can slow down the depletion of collagen, which leads to sagging skin," says Cathy Kangas, CEO and founder of Prai Beauty.

"Gold can firm skin cells and provide a tightening effect, which in turn, reduces the appearance of wrinkles and fine lines. Plus, it's great at helping to reduce sun damage and age spots."

It must contain the real deal, though – watch out for sparkly masks where the glitter doesn't serve any cosmetic purpose.

"Our 24K Gold collection is infused with actual 24 carat gold and specifically targeted wrinkle repair," Cathy says.

Another benefit of gold is that it can act as a booster for the other elements of your skincare.

"Active gold helps the core ingredients to fully penetrate the skin, as well as enhancing their effectiveness," explains Jessica Smith, UK brand manager for Natura Siberica.

"It delivers anti-ageing effects, defence against environmental aggressors and reflects light to enhance your natural glow – it really is good as gold!"

Are these products frighteningly expensive, though?

There are certainly some luxury options available, but because the quantities of the

Above: Gold-based treatments certainly shine on Instagram, but beauty experts insist they do have practical benefits too

metal are so small, you can reap the benefits of gold without having to fork out a fortune.

Face, eye and lip masks are ideal for a once-a-week treatment, while serums, scrubs and face creams let you incorporate the shiny stuff on a daily basis.

Here, from bargain buys to premium picks, are the skincare products that are worth their weight in gold...



Gold can help boost other elements in your skincare

BEST BUYS



Above: FaceGym Gold Glow Signature Training Serum, £70, available from FaceGym

Above: Balance Active Formula Gold Collagen Hydrogel Under Lip Masks, £1.99 for two, from Fragrance Direct



Above: Chantecaille Gold Recovery Mask, £235, available from Chantecaille



Above: Manuka Doctor 24K Gold and Manuka Honey Facial Peel, £29.99, available from Manuka Doctor



Left: Natura Siberica Caviar Gold Active Day Face Cream Youth Injection, £32.50, available from Natura Siberica



Above: Peter Thomas Roth 24K Gold Mask, £77, from Cult Beauty



Above: NMZ Skin Hydra-Bright Golden Eye Treatment Mask, 5 pairs, £65, available from FeelUnique



Left: Prai 24K GOLD Caviar Wrinkle Repair Serum, £44.99, available from Prai and Guerlain L'Or Radiance Concentrate With Pure Gold Make Up Base, £42.75, from Escentual



Right: MasqueBar Gold Magic Mask, £4.99, available from ASOS



Left: Omorovicza Gold Sugar Scrub, £57, available from Cosmetify

TRIED & TESTED

THE BEST BODY SCRUBS

■ **Elemis Lime and Ginger Salt Glow, £40.50, elemis.com:**

USING this makes you feel like you have spent an hour in a spa.

The salt scrub is not too abrasive on skin but leaves it silky smooth. It smells divine too.

★★★★★

■ **Soaper Duper Zesty Lemon Body Scrub £7, Tesco:** SLOUGH off dull winter skin with this fast and effective body scrub. The strong blast of lemon is a great wake-up call in the morning and the

scrub contains no colours, parabens, mineral oils or the like so is perfect for sensitive skin.

It's also good value as a little goes a long way.

★★★★★

■ **The Body Shop Coconut Exfoliating Cream Body Scrub £15 (250ml), £6 (50ml):** THE

moment I took the lid off this, I felt I had been transported to faraway tropical climes. It smells gorgeous.

It is very thick, went on easily and wasn't too rough on the skin but it did take a long time to rinse off the residue afterwards.

★★★★★

■ **Ameliorate Smoothing Body Exfoliant £17.50, lookfantastic.com:**

RATHER than use in the bath or shower, you apply this to dry skin then leave it for a few minutes before showering. It gives a really effective, deep exfoliation.

After a few uses my skin was noticeably less bumpy. My only niggle – it smells a bit medicinal.

★★★★★

CELEBRITY SECRET

Turns out Kendall Jenner is a girl after our own hearts. The reality star turned model (pictured) revealed on Instagram that, like us, she is "kinda obsessed" with her Wet Brush, £11.99, cultbeauty.co.uk, for detangling her glossy mane.



CELEBRITY WELLBEING

Wherever Bruce is, he's happy. I feel I have a star in the sky now, an angel who can guide me



Lady Wilnelia Forsyth has returned to modelling

Lady Wilnelia Forsyth talks to **GABRIELLE FAGAN** about the healing powers of staying active

IT'S been over a year since showbiz legend, Sir Bruce Forsyth, died at the age of 89 in August, 2017 – and his wife, Lady Wilnelia, has once again returned to working as model.

The pair met when they were both invited to be judges at the 1980 Miss World contest – Lady Wilnelia, also a former actress from Puerto Rico, had won the title herself in 1975 – and married in 1983.

They had a son, JJ, now 30, together, and the entertainer also had five daughters from his previous two marriages – the family, Lady Wilnelia says, is “very close”.

Despite the heartache of the past 15 months, she is as glamorous, effortlessly elegant and feeling positive. She still “talks to Bruce in her head”, which she says helps her get through the days.

The 61-year-old opens up about her feelings of loss, what's helped her cope with her grief, and why she still feels grateful for life's blessings...

How are you coping with life after losing Bruce?

IT'S a journey, a process, and sometimes I feel great but sadness comes and goes. The other day, we were celebrating my son JJ's birthday when my two-year-old step-granddaughter asks: ‘Winny, where's grandpa? When's he coming home? Is he playing golf?’

It's those moments you don't expect, and suddenly it completely destroys me. If I feel like crying, I do, and then I dry my tears and go on.

What's comforted you during such a difficult period?

I BELIEVE that wherever he is, he's happy, looking out for me, and I feel I have a star in the sky now – another angel who can guide me in many



Wilnelia and Bruce with their son, JJ

many ways. Bruce told me he wanted me to go on living, be happy, and enjoy my life.

Right from the beginning of our marriage, this was something we would talk about. He knew there was a big gap in our ages, and that I took a big step when I decided to marry him and come to this country, because I was leaving behind my family, my friends, even the weather!

It was a lot for a young girl but I was very much in love, and for whatever reason, I knew somehow, if I was lucky, I would be married to Bruce forever. I've been very, very lucky to have so many years with him. Many people don't have that experience in their life, and I'm very conscious about that.

What are the difficult moments?

NOWADAYS, sometimes when I have to make my own decisions. To tell the truth, sometimes I do talk in my head with Bruce, thinking, ‘Well what would he have said?’ or, ‘What he would like me to do?’ It may sound silly but it helps me.

I'm so lucky I have my family and friends around me that I can talk to. The girls (Bruce's daughters) have been amazing and my son JJ's fantastic, and we're very close.

Christmas will be hard but I'm going with JJ to Puerto Rico to be

with my parents. Bruce and I used to be there for New Year and I'll stay for that, so there'll be tears and laughter.

What inspired you to return to modelling?

FOR me, keeping busy is the best medicine. Modelling has been great, because it's made me focus on something completely different.

I love tailored trousers and pencil skirts at about knee-length for the day, teamed with cashmere or silk and, in the evening, clothes which are fitted, but I don't like to show too much cleavage. I'm lucky I've kept very much the same size over the years.

I'm now wearing bright colours again, which is natural for me coming from Latin America but last year, the only colours I could see in my closet were black. That was the mood I felt. It's strange how your emotions affect you.

Do you watch Strictly Come Dancing?

WHEN Bruce was here, I used to watch it every week and – not criticising – tell him afterwards what I thought! It's not easy to see it sometimes nowadays and I don't see it as regularly, but the series has been fantastic. Tess and Claudia are doing really well. I'm very much in touch with Tess.

How do you stay fit?

IN Latin America, the last thing we talk about is age, in the way people seem to constantly here.

I feel great and try to stay healthy. I exercise at home every morning, with stretching or a workout. I'm inspired by Bruce, who was so disciplined with his daily fitness routine. He was such an amazing

teacher for me in so many ways, he had such focus.

Pilates is good for me, after a back operation years ago, I love walking and golf, and make myself go the gym twice a week! Life's too beautiful to be on silly diet. If I have an occasional treat, like a doughnut, I'll eat it slowly and enjoy it. And I love a roast lunch once a week.

How else do you look after your wellbeing?

DANCING with my mother, Delia, who's staying with me at the moment, is wonderful. We do Latin dances because they make you move every muscle, and music and movement is brilliant for lifting the spirits.

I read positive books and I'm learning to meditate and practise mindfulness to help me relax as I have a very active mind and I find it hard to sleep. I have to use all sorts of things to help me, like counting backwards until I nod off.

What's the best piece of advice you've received?

DO things today and don't live for tomorrow. I'm a bit impatient and always want to get things done quickly, so that suits me.

An aunt also advised me: ‘When you chose a partner, pick someone who's going to be there for you and somebody that you admire.’ I did that, and I realise a lot of people have regrets if they chose the wrong partner in life, or didn't manage to say goodbye to the person they loved. I'm lucky that I've had an amazing marriage with Bruce, who made me laugh and I had fun with, and I was able to say goodbye.

■ LADY Wilnelia Forsyth models the JD Williams Christmas collection. Visit jdwilliams.co.uk



1 WHOLEGRAIN pasta, above, is rich in healthy carbohydrates supplying calories (energy) the body needs. Complex carbs are digested slowly, keeping your blood sugar steady over time and making you feel satisfied for longer.

2 IT is a good source of fibre for a healthy digestive system, which will help prevent constipation.

3 WHOLEGRAIN pasta is also a good source of vitamin B which is important for a healthy nervous system and metabolism.

4 IT contains protein that helps repair cells and tissue, rebuilds muscle, and strengthens hair, nails and skin.

5 WHOLEGRAIN pasta also contains traces of copper needed to form connective tissue and blood cells, selenium which supports immune system and thyroid gland function, and magnesium, essential for regulating blood pressure and building strong, healthy bones.

HEALTH NOTES

■ FAMILY size is continuing to shrink as women choose to have children later in life. And figures from the Office for National Statistics found they are having a record low average of 1.89 kids.

They compared women born in 1972 with those born in 1945, when an average of 2.19 children was the norm. It suggested the decline was down to women going into higher education, partnering or marrying later, or waiting until they are financially secure with careers.

■ THE sugar tax on soft drinks has raised £153.8million in six months, the Government says.

The tax was introduced in April and is slapped on the makers of fizzy drinks that have above a certain amount of sugar per litre.

It is hoped it will help fight childhood obesity. The income is being invested in school sports and breakfast clubs.

FAMILY MATTERS

CHILDREN'S BOOK OF THE WEEK



DIARY OF A WIMPY KID: THE MELTDOWN

by Jeff Kinney, Puffin Books, £12.99 (ebook £5.99)

★★★★★

IN this 13th book in the bestselling Wimpy Kid series, Greg and his trusty best friend Rowley get up to their usual crazy capers, but this time it turns into a battle for survival as a neighbourhood snowball fight turns feral.

A sudden cold snap shuts down Greg's school and, snowed in with nothing better to do, the local kids soon see this winter wonderland become a winter battleground.

Rival gangs fight over their territory and friends make and break alliances in an epic fight of modern-day Lord Of The Flies proportions.

Award-winning author Jeff Kinney dishes up his usual dry humour in this hilarious latest instalment, with many a laugh-out-loud moment thanks to Greg's bad ideas and loveable middle school neuroses.

KIDS' BUYS OF THE WEEK



IF YOU want to stock up on Christmas goodies and help a good cause too, Marie Curie has plenty of gifts on offer.

Its range includes this cute felt penguin decoration, left,

£4.50; football soap on a rope, right, £7.50; and organic cotton hand puppets, below, £19 each.

All available from mariecurie.org.uk/ shop or via its catalogue, or order from 0844 415 7845, with 100% of the profits going to the charity which cares for and supports people



living with a terminal illness and their loved ones.



Want to get the kids even more excited for Christmas? Try some fun and festive bedtime reading

Emily Brown and Father Christmas by Cressida Cowell, illustrated by Neal Leyton, Hodder Children's Books, £12.99

FROM the author of *How To Train Your Dragon*, comes a charming story about young girl Emily Brown and her old grey rabbit Stanley who are settling down to sleep on Christmas Eve.

Suddenly there's a cry of "HO-HO-HELP!" from outside the window. It's only Father Christmas, who has got himself into a spot of bother thanks to his new climbing equipment. Emily and Stanley come to Father Christmas' aid...

It won't be the only time that night, thanks to the man in red's efforts to drag himself into the 21st century.

His bang-up-to-date sleigh breaks down while his smartphone and sat-nav are no use at all.

Can Emily and Stanley convince Father Christmas that good old-fashioned magic is the best way to get the job done after all?



Curl up with a good book this Christmas

The Christmas Extravaganza Hotel by Tracey Corderoy, illustrated by Tony Neal, Little Tiger, £10.99

THIS fabulously festive tale sees Bear settling down for a nice simple Christmas at home when a surprise visitor turns up on his doorstep.

Frog thinks he's arrived at The Christmas Extravaganza Hotel, but sadly he's read his map all wrong and couldn't be further from his desired destination.



Will Bear step up and give frog a Christmas to remember? And will it be a patch on what the real hotel has to offer?

This is a lovely story to get you and your little ones in the mood for the festive season, with wonderful illustrations of Bear and Frog's adventures.

This is a story packed full of compassion, kindness and generosity too, which are perfect qualities to spread at Christmas time.

The Night Before Christmas by Kes Gray and Claire Powell, Hodder Children's Books, £6.99,

MANY parents will be familiar with Clement C. Moore's classic festive poem *The Night Before Christmas*.

In this twist on the tale, it's the day before Christmas Eve and Santa is ever so busy... he's got presents to wrap, reindeer to wake and a sleigh to start. But has he forgotten something?



This hilarious, rhyming picture book is sure to have you giggling!

Santa's Wonderful Workshop, written and illustrated by Elys Dolan, Oxford Children's Press, £6.99

IF you've ever wondered what really goes on in Santa's workshop then this is the story for you.

With more toys to make than ever before it's going to be the busiest year yet, but luckily Santa and the elves have everything under

Joy to the word



One small step for the babies will be one

DESPITE a lot of support, persuasion and pleading, the twins are still not walking.

If I were to be more encouraging, I'd say they're nearly mobile because they can hang onto things and shuffle.

I did see Thomas standing the other day - he saw me, got excited, jumped and fell over.

The problem is, 'nearly' walking is not actually walking in the same way 'nearly' swimming is drowning.

They've got a decent excuse as they were born five weeks prematurely but even talking that into account, they've



Baby steps: learning to walk

passed the magic milestone of one year and that's exactly when all the people pretending to be experts on the internet tell me they should walk.

There were also two of them hanging around in the womb, which means they were born a

little smaller. Thomas was a tiny 3lb 7oz so maybe that affects the speed with which they gain mobility.

Friends and relatives are united in saying, 'treasure the days when they're not walking, it's a nightmare, they get everywhere, nothing is sacred, we nailed cupboard doors shut'.

That's true, but occasionally I'll ask, 'when did your offspring start walking?'

"Nine months, little Balthazar was incredibly advanced for his age and by the time he was the same age as your two, he could dance the foxtrot", they reply.

RICHARD IRVINE

DOUBLE TROUBLE FOR A FIRST-TIME DAD OF TWINS





Last Stop on the Reindeer Express by Maudie Powell-Tuck, illustrated by Karl James Mountford, Little Tiger, £7.99
MIA is disappointed when she finds out her dad won't be coming home for Christmas.

She decides to send a card to him, which sets Mia off on a magical

journey into a mysterious postbox, where a new reindeer friend whisks her across snow-cloaked mountains and exotic streets lit by paper stars.

But will she reach her dad in time for Christmas?

This celebration of the festive season features lots of peek-through pages and hidden flaps making a lovely read to be shared by all the family.



One Cosy Christmas by M Christina Butler, illustrated by Tina Macnaughton, Little Tiger, £7.99

LITTLE Hedgehog is determined to have the perfect Christmas with his animal friends, but there's something mysterious

going on... something that could spoil all his festive plans.

Biscuits have been eaten, hats have gone missing and someone has been snoring all night! Who is to blame?

The 11th Little Hedgehog book features charming illustrations and touch-and-feel elements which combine to give the story an extra cosy feel, just right for winding down at bedtime.



Christmas Fairy Tale Mix Up by Hilary Robinson and Jim Smith, Hodder Children's Books, £7.99
OH no! Santa has got stuck down the chimney while delivering presents to the Three Little Pigs...

Now you can create your own hilarious festive fairy tales with this ingenious, split-page, spiral bound book.

Enjoy hundreds of novelty stories from the creators of the popular Mixed Up Fairy Tales.



control... except for a rampaging polar bear, a toy factory that only makes toasters and some pesky penguin visitors.

This picture book is full of laughs with lots going on across every page. Right from the start - where the naughty and nice list has been lost, but on closer inspection a reindeer is using them as toilet paper - you know you're in for a good chuckle.

Younger readers may struggle with the structure as there is quite a lot going on on almost every page, however this would still make for a great read in the run up to the big day.

giant leap for daddy's **sanity**

My main motivation to get them moving is so we can leave the house without the kind of baggage Mariah Carey requires for a mini break.

Last Sunday, we decided to drive into town and show them the Christmas lights.

By the time we'd filled the car, loaded the babies, driven there and found the lift out of the car park, it was dark. The friendly family shoppers had been replaced by annoying drunk Christmas revellers shouting across the street.

It made me yearn for that magic day when I will shout, 'we're going' and they just put their coats on and walk out of the house (I imagine).

Unfortunately, this looks a long way off for Emma. She's certainly no weaker or less developed than Thomas but he's trying very hard to walk whereas she lacks ambition.

Laziness is too strong a word for her as I think it's more manipulative than simply not being bothered.

Through a crack in the door, I watched her confidently stand up in her play pen, then, just as I burst into the room and shouted, 'well done', she sat down.

And who can blame her?

Why would you be in a hurry to walk when there's a halfwit to carry you or push you everywhere you want to go in a comfy buggy?



WARM AND FUZZY
Velour red and white stocking
£2.99, H&M



FESTIVE FRIENDS
Personalised stockings by Dibor £14.95, notonthehighstreet.com

TWINKLE TWINKLE
Heritage star knitted stocking
£12, Mothercare



KIDS' PUZZLES!

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



Can you spot the six differences between the pictures below?



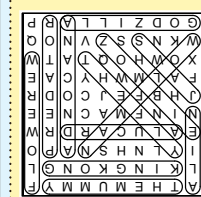
WORDSEARCH

Can you find all these movie monsters in the grid?

ALIEN	PREDATOR
ANACONDA	THE FLY
DRACULA	THE MUMMY
GODZILLA	WEREWOLF
JAWS	WOLFGANG
KING KONG	ZOMBIE

A	T	H	E	M	U	M	M	Y	F
L	K	I	N	G	K	O	N	G	L
I	Y	L	N	H	S	N	A	P	O
E	A	L	U	C	A	R	D	R	W
N	I	N	F	M	A	C	N	E	E
J	H	B	F	E	J	C	O	D	R
F	A	L	M	W	H	Y	C	A	E
X	O	W	H	O	Q	T	A	T	W
W	K	N	S	S	Z	V	N	O	Q
G	O	D	Z	I	L	L	A	R	P

Solutions



BREAKTIME

Pathfinder

Beginning with the top highlighted letter, follow a continuous path of words associated with the given subject. The trail goes through each letter once, twisting up, down and sideways, but never diagonally.

Country singers

D I L L Y G U R I B I Y R I X
O H H C D O T H E S L L A D I
L L T A R O W E K R E C Y S E
P Y I A R I L N R O G Y R U C
A R T F U E L N Y M I T C I H
N I O N N D E B P M C S K H E
P A A I N E R A M R G N Y C S
A W T H A O W C N A E N Y E N
T C L S D O G L E W K I B S H
S Y I N A S H H O U C L N E E
N N Y E C A S H N J R Y L I Y R
E M L L O I A M S R I A L L C
Y M A T R L L I T G N I O E R
L H A T E H A W O L O G R G O
O U R R I S N K N F R I D A W

Split Decision

Cross out one of the two letters in each divided square to reveal a completed crossword grid.

S	A	N	G	U	L	P
T	C		R	L		A
T	P		U	N		S
O	L		S	E		U
D	H		I	T		R

Sudoku

There is one simple rule in Sudoku. Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box.

Easy

	9		6				7	
	2	6		8	5	3		
		5		1	3	2		4
	8		4		7			6
				5			2	
6					8		4	
		9	2	3		4		
	1	2	8	6				3
	4	8			9		1	2

Hard

	7			3			2	
	5		1	7				
		9						6
7		2	5				8	
		1				2		
	9				2	6		5
1						9		
			7		6		3	
	3			8			6	

Two Speed Crossword

This two-speed crossword has two sets of clues, but just one grid. If you can't solve the Cryptic clue, try the Quick.

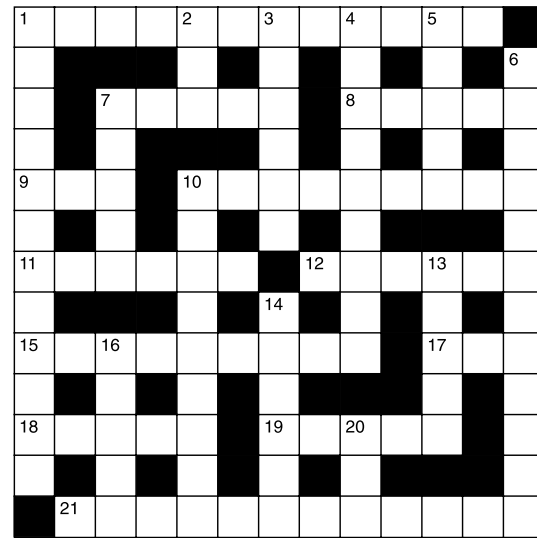
Cryptic

Across

- The third month's show of discontentment perhaps (7,5)
- It's a beast to turn (5)
- Shed to become lighter (5)
- Presumably the pilot would rather have cream without it (3)
- Is she relatively shy? (4,5)
- A severe trial or a bargain (6)
- Bird takes article from planet-dweller (6)
- Pursue to the end and succeed on leaving (6,3)
- Some selfish little thing (3)
- Mediterranean island in Africa privately owned (5)
- Make a general concession? (5)
- It certainly helps when the wicked get nothing (3,2,3,4)

Down

- No place for a private secretary! (6,6)
- The girl of the night before (3)
- The autocrat in the party ran things his way (6)
- The helper is an idiot to sit awkwardly by a worker (9)
- The ailment presumably calling for heat treatment (5)
- Suitable place for those game for open-air drama? (7,5)
- Horse finds 7 across has a different tail (5)
- He finds resemblances from nostalgia (9)
- What the doctor will do is worth looking forward to! (5)
- Looked for sound type (6)
- Part of the jacket measures 50-20-50 (5)
- Copy father getting up early initially (3)



Scribble pad

Quick

Across

- Public manifestation of dissent (7,5)
- Guide (5)
- Disgorge (5)
- Frozen water (3)
- Fairground target (4,5)
- Trying experience (6)
- Swallow (6)
- Implement to a conclusion (6,3)
- Sprite (3)
- Italian island (5)
- Bestow (5)
- Everything for the best (3,2,3,4)

Down

- Position of duty (6,6)
- Biblical woman (3)
- Despot (6)
- Aide (9)
- Refrigerate (5)
- Sports ground (7,5)
- Horse (5)
- One who draws comparisons (9)
- Handle (5)
- Searched for (6)
- Collar part (5)
- Primate (3)

Codeword

This puzzle has no clues. Instead, every number printed in the grid represents a letter, with the same number always representing the same letter. For example, if 8 turns out to be a V, you can write in V wherever a square contains 8. Using your knowledge of words, complete the puzzle.

5	9	23	12			20		23	9	10	11
	13			9	1	25	10	11	23		19
7	5	8	10	11		11		25	16	12	25
	9			2		19		3		10	12
	4	19	15	8	19	22	26	19		19	14
4				20		13			22		20
13	8	26	6	19	20		23	9	4	13	19
20		20				24		22			14
9	20	19		4	18	9	20	6	10	22	17
10		1		9		4		5			20
17	8	10	5	13		13		19	4	4	9
21		26		19	2	19	26	13			10
13	20	19	6			11			21	19	5

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
								A				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		R			

Wordsquare

Give yourself ten minutes to find as many words as possible using the letters in the grid. Each word must use the central letter and at least 3 others, and letters may be used only once. You cannot use plurals, foreign words or proper nouns, but verb forms ending in 's' are permitted. There is one 9-letter word to be found.

How you rate:

10 words - average; 15 words - good; 20 words - very good; 25 or more - excellent.

D	L	E
H	I	I
K	L	C

Quiz

- Which new film stars Matthew McConaughey as Richard Wershe Sr, the father of the FBI's youngest ever informant?
- With which sport were Olga Korbut and Nadia Comaneci associated?
- What name is given to a self-propelled underwater missile?
- What name is given to an instrument used for measuring temperature?
- In what year did man first land on the moon?



Q1 - Matthew McConaughey

- Which American president resigned as a result of the Watergate scandal?
- In the Old Testament, which two cities were destroyed by fire and brimstone because of the depravity of their inhabitants?
- Of which landlocked African country is Kigali the capital?
- Which Canadian city hosted the 1976 Olympics?
- What does PR stand for in relation to electoral systems?

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

Pathfinder

Steven Spielberg, Martin Scorsese, Joel and Ethan Coen, Francis Ford Coppola, Quentin Tarantino, Orson Welles, Ridley Scott, Wes Anderson, Chris Columbus, Stanley Kubrick, Sofia Coppola, George Lucas, David Yates, Tim Burton, Peter Jackson, Woody Allen, Wes Craven, Clint Eastwood.

Quiz

- Dempsey and Makepeace; 2 The Ryder Cup; 3 Tories; 4 Shanghai; 5 Nitrogen; 6 Orienteering; 7 Dame Margaret Rutherford; 8 Bulgaria; 9 Cello; 10 Shamrock.

Sudoku

5	6	9	3	7	8	4	1	2
1	2	3	5	9	4	6	7	8
7	8	4	2	6	1	5	9	3
3	7	2	9	1	5	8	6	4
6	5	8	4	3	7	9	2	1
9	4	1	6	8	2	7	3	5
8	3	6	1	5	9	2	4	7
4	1	5	7	2	6	3	8	9
2	9	7	8	4	3	1	5	6

Codeword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Z	Q	R	O	E	B	T	C	I	L	W	Y	J
K	P	S	F	V	G	D	M	N	X	H	A	U

Split Decision

A	B	O	U	T
R		R		E
R	O	B	I	N
O		I		T
W	A	T	C	H

December 6, 2018

ESSEXLIVE.NEWS/PROPERTY

PROPERTY & LIVING



YULE LOVE IT

There's no getting away from it, Christmas is coming. We serve up some additional sparkle

PAGES 48, 49, 50&51

BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

This four bedroom detached house in the Potter Street area of Harlow boasts four double bedroom. PAGES 44&45



HOT HOUSE



FOUR-BEDROOM HOME IDEAL FOR A FAMILY

This charming four-bedroom house has just come onto the market for you to buy. Located in the Potter Street area of Harlow, this property on Glan Avon Mews is perfect for families, boasting four double bedrooms, a modern kitchen and a well-sized garden for the kids to play in.

Step inside the house, and you'll see there's even more on offer.

The entrance hall is impressive and leads to the kitchen and dining area, as well as a downstairs toilet.

The lounge has an attractive fire place and double doors leading to the garden.

Upstairs, there's the four bedrooms, including the master with a newly decorated en-suite, and a family bathroom.

The garden has a large patio area for BBQs with the rest laid to lawn and there is also a garage and driveway to the rear, providing plenty of off-road parking.

It is also ideal for commuters, with it being close to the M11 and within a two mile radius of two railway stations, and there are also a number of local schools around.

To book a viewing or for more information, call Guardian Residential Lettings and Sales in Harlow on 01279 635685 or visit www.guardianresidential.com. The asking price is £380,000.







YOUR GARDEN

With Diarmuid Gavin

Beauties in a bottle

1970s-style glass gardens are back, and they're the ultimate in low maintenance

Ever since I was a little kid I have been enchanted by the notion of bottle gardens. I loved the mysterious glass world that seemed to magnify its green inhabitants and was fascinated by the fact that it needed so little intervention to help it thrive.

During the 1970s and 80s there was a great vogue for bottle gardens but they disappeared for decades. Now they've come back with a bang.

In the run-up to the holiday season, many of us will give or receive plants and some of these will be suitable for bottle gardens. So as an end-of-year project how about creating your own?

They contain all the magic and mystique of a ship in a bottle – plus they tend to excite and inspire all ages, so maybe this is a project for the family.

First step is to find a suitable bottle. This should be large enough for some slow growing plants to be happy in with an opening that isn't too big or too small. If it's too big you'll have difficulty finding a cork to seal it, and therefore it will need more regular watering than is ideal. If it's too small you'll have difficulty getting your plants in.

Many garden centres and florists now sell the perfect bottle. Being an industrious type in the 1980s I used

demijohns, cheap glass bottles for home brewing.

Their narrow opening was just the right size to squeeze my little specimen plants through.

Wash your chosen vessel to make sure the container is clean. Dirt on the outside will reduce the amount of light that reaches the plants, and a dirty inside will encourage disease.

Next, create two layers within the base of the container. The first layer should be a very porous material to help with drainage and prevent fungal attacks caused by too much moisture.

Use gravel, pebbles or sand and add a thin layer of activated charcoal which will reduce any smell caused by decomposition of dead leaves. Now add a thick layer of compost.

Choose plants which need a high degree of humidity but

not species which are grown for their flowers.

Consider the look you want – are you after a variety of colour with many different leaf shapes to create a bold contrast? Or a consistent height level so everything grows to roughly the same size? Or maybe you want visual structure, in which case you need some taller plants.

Your plants need to be reasonably slow growing so as not to take over the others and they will all need similar light and water requirements. I went for a croton for its striking green and

RESULT:
Cork on and the bottle garden is complete



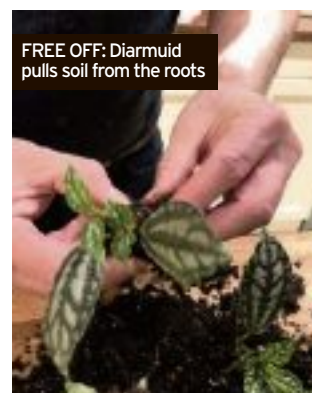
FILL UP:
Compost in and the first plants are set in place



DIG IN: If the bottle opening is narrow, use a long spoon



FREE OFF: Diarmuid pulls soil from the roots



yellow leaves, a small fern which will adore the high humidity the bottle garden will provide, and a Pilea with its silvery grey foliage.

All three plants will accept medium light levels, quite high humidity conditions and will be happy in year-round warmth.

Next, planting. In some respects this is the hardest part of the task.

If the neck is large enough for you to get at least one of your hands inside, things are easy as you just need to carefully put one plant in at a time and then bury the root ball into the layer of compost you added previously.

With narrow openings, use long handled spoons to enable you to dig out a small trench and then to help you lower the plants into the newly created hole.

Go slowly, enjoy the process and move things around until you're

happy with the final look. Firm the soil gently around the roots. Don't crowd the plants – allow them space to grow and spread, and don't plant directly against the sides of the container.

Water carefully, don't overdo it. Pour the water against the inside rim of the bottle. It will run down the sides of the vessel, cleaning it along the way and into the soil.

This way it flows to the very edges without dislodging the plants or splattering the compost.

Go easy on the amount used, more can always be added but it takes time for excess water to evaporate... and your plants may have succumbed by then.

Place your new bottle garden in its new home, in a bright environment but away from direct sunlight.

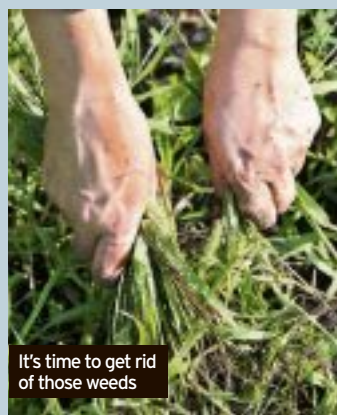
If you have a closed terrarium – if it has a lid or cork – put that cover in place. A closed bottle garden may

never need watering again!

An open bottle garden will need a small amount of water every couple of months, but if the opening is wide then perhaps a little more often.

And one last thing – don't feed the garden.

The last thing you want is to encourage rapid growth.



It's time to get rid of those weeds

JOBS FOR THE WEEK

■ Take a walk through your garden and see what seeds or berries are available to collect, and keep for spring sowings.

■ Not everything needs to be tidied up – a pile of leaves can make a cosy bed for a hedgehog this winter.

■ Have you got all your garden furniture indoors or covered up for the winter? In the garage,

these can be cleaned or rubbed with oil as necessary, or painted.

■ Acers and birches which need pruning should be done now to avoid risk of bleeding – their sap rises early so don't leave it until spring. In general they don't require any pruning but if there is branch that is in an awkward position or is diseased, now is the time to give it the chop.

■ Vines can be pruned hard, back to two buds of last year's growth, to encourage fruiting spurs next time.

■ There's still a fair amount of weeds in the ground – so dig them out or spray them off so you don't have to face them in the spring.

■ Retailers are discounting bulbs now so grab a few and get them in the ground.



Leaves can make a cosy bed for hedgehogs



ASK DIARMUID

Q Can you name this plant that's in my garden please?

Ken

A That's *Gladiolus murielae*, also known as the peacock orchid. It's a very beautiful flowering corm with a wonderful fragrance.

It is tender, having its origins in Eastern Africa, so make sure to get it lifted as soon as possible and store over winter, as you would a dahlia tuber or other tender bulbs or corms.



PLANT OF THE WEEK

COTONEASTER LACTEUS/ LATE COTONEASTER

I spotted this tree in a front garden this week looking really splendid, laden with bright red berries and it struck me that we are all missing a trick not planting it a little bit more.

It's evergreen - the leaves are large, leathery and dark green with a grey furry underside. The plentiful white flowers in summer are followed by copious clusters of scarlet fruit - they ripen late and so last

on the tree up until and sometimes beyond Christmas.

It can be grown as a large shrub, hedge or small specimen tree with its graceful arching branches.

A great addition to the garden and the birds will be ever so grateful for their Christmas dinner!

Grow in sun or partial shade in average well-drained soil, but it's tolerant of most aspects and soils.



The heartbreaking prequel to the Sunday Times Bestseller, *Finding Tipperary Mary*

Read the real story of Bridget 'Tipperary Mary' Larkin. A stirring account of desperation, abandonment and the relentless pursuit of love.

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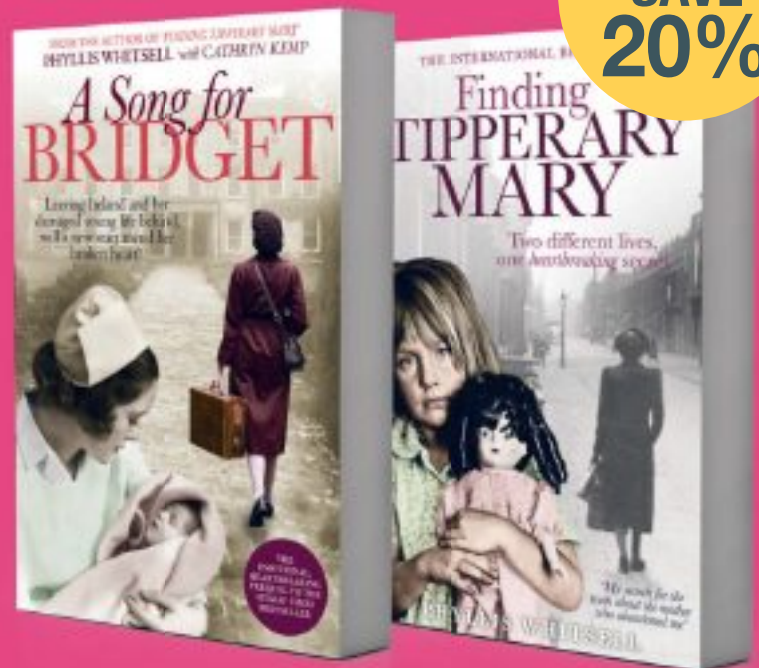
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YOUR HOME

Christmas tables that yule love

Serve up in style this festive season. Anna Barnett, food writer and all-round style guru, tells **GABRIELLE FAGAN** her go-to tips and tricks

If conjuring a beautiful table setting is usually one final frazzled festive step too far – take heart!

Stylish food writer Anna Barnett, who's worked in TV and magazines and knows a thing or two about glamorous effects and glittering occasions, has come to the rescue, sharing some of her insider tips and tricks.

She's turned the tables on traditional table settings and given her own creative spin to three festively fabulous looks. Best of all, she promises they're all easy-peasy to do!

"I love doing a Christmas table setting as it's a chance to be super-creative and let your personality shine through," says Anna, whose second book, *How To Be Gluten Free And Keep Your Friends* (Quadrille, £12.99), is published in January.

"It honestly doesn't need many ingredients to give a setting the 'wow' factor. Just be inspired by your bauble collection and add a few more details, like foliage," adds the author and blogger, whose enthusiasm is infectious.

"Make it eye-catching and engaging – and a little bit different – and people will enjoy your feast even more."

"Then sit back and wait for the compliments – guaranteed to give you a seasonal glow!"

Simply choose your look, and follow Anna's two-step guide to styling each one...

1 Serve nature with an Aussie flavour
"This is my favourite. It's a refreshing, Australian-inspired scheme using eucalyptus stems," says Anna.

"Their subtle, muted colour is so in tune with the fashionable country look. Fruits and metallics give it visual punch but this is still a lovely easy-on-the-eye, tranquil effect."

■ Step 1 – A hanging display: Use a small bunch of willow branches attached to two leather straps or ribbon. Hang from a ceiling centrally above the table or kitchen counter, or alternatively on a wall or from a pendant light or chandelier.

Hang a selection of lightweight baubles at different heights onto branches using invisible thread

(fishing line works well).

Select a palette of two to three colours – gold and orange are a classic combination, Anna points out.

"I've included miniature Christingles (oranges spiked with cloves)."

■ Step 2 – The centrepiece: "Lay a line of eucalyptus stems the length of the table and intersperse with gold, copper or bronze baubles, which will reflect candlelight."

"These shades look incredible together and eucalyptus has a relaxing aroma," says Anna.

"Bring the effect to life with pomegranates, artichokes, oranges and walnuts – I've spray-painted some of them gold too."

"A selection of candlesticks (marble or metallic) of different heights creates atmospheric lighting."

Enhance with interesting texture, she suggests, such as a linen tablecloth and napkins, and creamy white hand-thrown pottery contrasting with sleek china dinnerware.

SERVE NATURE WITH AN AUSSIE TWIST



Copper abstract candle holder (left), £13, Green Forest Tea Light Holder, £10.50 (below left), The Contemporary Home

Halo gold, silver & iridescent bauble, £4; Neal (set of three) glitter baubles, £12; Judson decanter, £25; Marsden marble candle holder, £25; Vienna (set of six) wine glasses, £28; Elzora chalk white 12-piece dinner set, £75, Habitat

Frosted Eucalyptus Mix Wreath, currently reduced from £45 to £22.50, Cox & Cox



2 Decorate on the dark side
"Black isn't normally a colour that people think to decorate with at Christmas, but this is a really different dramatic scheme, with a cool, contemporary vibe," says Anna.

"This really suits pared-back Scandi-style decor, which is so on-trend, and I love the idea of dressing the table to match the room's decor. Ramp up the drama and go really moody with all-black

dinnerware, or keep that lovely sharp contrast of monochrome."

"For me, this is a winning combination of playful and quirky."

■ Step 1 – The centrepiece: "Black's a great base to accentuate colour and texture, and I've layered gold and pine on the top," she explains. "Layer fir tree branches down the middle of the table, which will fill the room with a pine scent, and entwine with battery-operated fairy lights."

"Pine fronds and pom-poms give warmth to this look, and stop it being too stark," Anna adds.

■ Step 2 – Bespoke a place setting: Baubles and gift tags, with every guest's name written on each, conjure really personal place settings and make a lovely gift and souvenir of the meal for each person to take away.

DECORATE ON THE DARK SIDE



Nazar set of two black and orange eye baubles, £12; Annarsk set of 40 metallic baubles, £8; Pom pom galore 20 LED white pom-pom garland, £25; Madison black cast metal single dinner candle holder, £12; Turini black finish 16-piece cutlery set, £95; Noir graphite speckled black 12-piece dinner set, £100; Grayson white speckled stoneware 12-piece dinner set, £80, Habitat

Normann Copenhagen Heima Black Candle Holer Candlestick, currently reduced from £42 to £33.60, Hurn & Hurn



Scandi Star decoration, rubber, black (left), £3.50, and standing Christmas tree decoration, rubber, black (right), £5.50 whiteblackgrey.co.uk

Patterned porcelain tea light holder, £13.50, insidestoreldn.com



3 Create a fiesta feast

"If you love colour, this one's for you," says Anna. "I've used a traditionally seasonal palette of red and gold as a base but then thrown in a 'fiesta' vibe with over-the-top patterned baubles, sequins and glitter. Lots of glitter!"

■ Step 1 – The centrepiece: "Any foliage will work – maybe a mix of eucalyptus stems and dark green ivy – with lots of fairy twinkling lights," says Anna. "For added zing, weave in strands of red and gold ribbon or glitter string."

"Plunder your bauble collection



Prices correct at time of going to print. Offers available while stocks last

Anna Barnett creates her nature-inspired table with an Australian twist. **Cosmos set of three gold star tree decorations, £8; Roca set of six multi-coloured faceted baubles, £8; Anngarsk set of 40 metallic baubles, £8; Neal set of three glitter-dipped baubles, £12, all Habitat**

and maybe add some new ones to the mix. And feel free to go OTT!" she urges. "The bigger the display, the more impressive it'll be.

"If you're worried about overwhelming a table and not leaving enough space for platters and plates, arrange the effects in clusters spaced at intervals."

■ **Step 2 - Place setting:** "Attach gift

tags to small cocktail crackers for each setting. I've used wool tassel tree decorations (Habitat) here as a cutlery tie, or you could use them as a napkin ring. These are nice takeaway favours for guests," Anna notes.

"If you want to 'cool' down the look, substitute white or even silver china for the red plates," she suggests. "It'll give the same vibe but not quite as bold."

CREATE A FIESTA FEAST



Peacock wine glass, set of two, currently reduced from £26 to £22, Red Candy



Slick iridescent stainless steel cutlery, 16-piece, £39.50, Red Candy

Gold Swirl Bauble, £5.99, in store, Dobbies



Christmas garland, £1 each, Poundland

Gold plate, £1, Poundland stores



Comet set of two large multi-coloured zig-zag baubles, £12; Roca set of six multi-coloured faceted baubles, £8; Castillo set of two multi-coloured patterned baubles, £12; Vega geometric-patterned multi-coloured bauble, £6; set of 8 multi-coloured mini Christmas crackers, £6; Alula set of two multi-coloured tassel Christmas tree decorations, £5; Turini gold finish 16-piece cutlery set, £95; Greta set of four red reactive glaze stoneware dinner plates, £40, and matching set of four side plates, £32, Habitat

WHERE TO BUY: coxandcox.co.uk, habitat.co.uk, hurnandhurn.com, redcandy.co.uk, tch.net



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These bannister
lights are £30 for a
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bright**

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strings to scene lights,
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ways to illuminate your
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season...

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scene,
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co.uk

Above: Winter branches
ornament, £8, Wilko

Above:
Red berry garland,
£60, Laura Ashley

Above:
Christmas
bell string
lights, £2,
Poundland



Below:
String of reindeer
lights, £18.50,
Coxandcox.
co.uk



Below: Gold star string lights,
£9.99, Dobbies



Right: Gold traditional tealight
house, £3, Primark

Below: Reindeer lights, £7.99
for 6, Studio.co.uk



Below:
Tealight
lanterns, £10,
Debenhams



Left: Light-up cushion,
£19.50, Marks &
Spencer

Below: Stag
light box, £15,
M&Co



Above:
Standing trees,
£17.99 for 3, Very.co.uk



**...UNUSUAL
BAUBLES**



**HOLLY, JOLLY
CHRISTMAS**
Holly leaves,
£1.50
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**RAINBOW
SELECTER**
Rainbow, £4
Marks & Spencer



**STAR
QUALITY**
Star, £5
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TONIC**
Gin bottle, £4.99
New Look

YOUR HOME

Oh, Christmas trees...

6ft Pre-Lit Snow Tipped Christmas Tree, £60, Argos

Simple to set up but we did get covered in the fake snow taking it out of the box. The branches on the lower half are hinged so they almost sort themselves out, without leaving gaps. Looked snowy and Christmassy immediately and you could get away without using extra decorations.

VERDICT:

Quality tree with realistic branches.

Can a real fir be trumped by the convenience of a good artificial version? **TRICIA PHILLIPS** and **RUKI SAYID** rate fakes billed as pop-up and go...

George Home 5ft Pop-Up Pre-Lit LED Christmas Tree with baubles, £25, Asda

We had this up in less than five minutes. It's got all the classic and traditional elements of green tree with red and gold baubles, and warm and soft lights. Just a matter of putting the base together, adding a pole and dropping the tree over it, then plugging in.

VERDICT: Simple assembly, classic look.

6ft Green Pencil Christmas Tree, £15, Argos

Easy to put together - just three bits and it's pretty sturdy. But it takes a bit of time and it's fiddly to pull all the branches into place. Decent tree, good for a small room. It needed lots of baubles and bits to brighten it up. Be wary of using big baubles.

VERDICT: Good for small rooms.

* Prices correct at time of going to print.

6ft Mixed Cones and Berries Tree, £50, Wilko

Sturdy and a bit heavy to carry. Simple to put up and the branches are on arms and wires so they fell into place easily. Branches are chunky and substantial and the cones and berries are a nice addition. A few baubles and lights and it looked good. If it had come pre-lit this would have got our top score as it is a good tree.

VERDICT: Looked posher than the price.

6ft Green Baubles & Lights Christmas Tree, £35, Marks & Spencer

We loved the fact you could buy everything as a bundle. A simple slot-together tree, basic but decent quality. The baubles were a mix of posh-looking numbers in green and clear glass, along with glitter finish, shiny and matt ones.

VERDICT:

Good value.

8/10

9/10

7/10

9/10

Real deal

5-6ft Non-Drop Nordman Fir Tree, £19.99, Lidl

For those who just can't live without the real deal, Lidl has branched out this year to offer the genuine article... just be sure you can dispose of it properly when the festivities are over.

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GUARDIAN

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Set in a private area, Guardian are delighted to bring to the market this one bedroom first floor flat with the benefit of a newly extended lease. The property offers a good double bedroom, fitted kitchen, modern bathroom and a allocated parking space.

£154,450

Markwell Wood, Harlow



Extended lease to 169 years! Guardian are delighted to offer this well presented first floor flat in the well sought after Private area of Dadswood. An ideal purchase or investment Dadswood.

£175,000

Dadswood, Harlow



New Instruction

Guardian are delighted to offer this first floor flat, the property is very spacious for a new build and a ideal investment or first time buy due to location. The property is well looked after with a modern fitted kitchen, lounge with wooden flooring. EPC: B

£199,999

Newstead way, Fifth Avenue



Price Reduction

Guardian are delighted to offer a rarely available 2 bedroom maisonette in Church Langley with parking and walking. NO service and maintenance charge. NO ground rent. Own front door! New kitchen fitted recently, large lounge and two good sized bedrooms. EPC: C

£210,000

Chamberlain Close, Church Langley



Guardian are delighted to offer this immaculate two bedroom flat in the sought after private area of Bromley Close! Includes private parking, en suite, large bedrooms and living area! Second floor, UPVC double glazed through out and electric heating. EPC: C

£225,000

Bromley Close, Harlow



Price Reduction

Guardian are delighted to offer an immaculate three bedroom house in Sycamore Field. Three good sized bedrooms, modern fitted kitchen and bathroom. Close to local transport links and amenities. Double glazed through out with gas central heating. EPC: E

£259,999

Sycamore Field, Harlow



Current HMO

Guardian are delighted to offer this HMO ready property, currently up and running with tenants in place. Four of the rooms are currently tenanted. A gross yield of 12.92% is achievable with all rooms let. EPC: C

£260,000

Milwards, Harlow



Guardian are delighted to offer this excellent Two double bedroom mid-terraced house that in good decorative order throughout and is situated in close proximity to shops and amenities. EPC: C

£260,000

Abbotsweld, Harlow



Guardian are delighted to offer this great three bedroom family home in the Summers area. The property is located with easy transport links to north London close to local schools and amenities. EPC: D

£279,999

Sycamore Field, Harlow



Semi Detached

Guardian are delighted to offer this well conditioned Three bedroom semi detached house that is located in close proximity to shops and amenities. The property is in good decorative order throughout. EPC: D

£299,995

Lodge Hall, Harlow



Guardian are delighted to offer this four bedroom end of terrace property idyllically position in a quiet cul de sac close to the town, train station, local amenities and schools. The current owners having lovingly refurbished the property and converted the garage. EPC: D

£365,000

Morley Grove, Harlow



Private Area

Guardian are delighted to offer for sale this four bedroom detached house situated in the Potter Street area of Harlow. The property is presented in good decorative order and boasts four double bedroom, gas heating to radiators, high spec modern fitted kitchen and good size rear garden.

£380,000

Glan Avon Mews, Potter Street



Guardian are delighted to offer this Four bedroom detached property comprising converted garage to create either a second reception room or fourth bedroom with own en-suite. Also benefiting from ground floor cloakroom, kitchen/diner. EPC: C

£390,000

Heathcote Gardens, Church Langley



Guardian are delighted to offer this Chain free, well-proportioned 3 double bedroom Mews House with Car-port. The property is situated in the sought after village of Roydon which benefits from a main-line station providing direct rail services to Stansted. EPC: C

£415,000

Roydon Mews, High Street, Roydon



Guardian are delighted to offer this spacious 3/4 bedroom Town house, that is offered chain free and benefits from stunning scenic views over Harlow Town Park. This modern property comprises large open plan kitchen/Family room, downstairs WC. EPC: B

£425,000

Tanyard Place, Harlow



Immediate Throughput

Guardian are delighted to present this rarely available six bedroom detached family home in desirable private area of Church Langley. This stunning property has been finished to a high standard throughout. Benefits include a modern kitchen with integrated appliances. EPC: C

£580,000

Whieldon Grange, Church Langley

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Westbury Rise, Church Langley **£560,000**

- Four Bedrooms
- Two Receptions
- Kitchen/Family Room
- Conservatory
- Detached House
- Double Detached Garage
- Immaculate Home
- EPC Rating: D



Chelsea Gardens, Church Langley **£549,995**

- Six Bedrooms
- Two Receptions
- En-Suite Shower
- Garage & Drive
- Utility & W.C
- Riptide Swim Spa
- EPC Rating: TBC



Park Avenue, Harlow **£525,000**

- Four Bedrooms
- Two Receptions
- Utility/W.C
- Popular Location
- Semi Detached
- Driveway
- 100ft Garden
- EPC Rating: F



ASHWORTH PLACE, HARLOW

- Four Bedrooms
- Garage & Driveway
- Two Receptions
- Westerly Garden
- Detached Family Home
- Desirable Location
- Utility & Cloakroom/WC
- EPC Rating: TBC

£515,000



FARNHAM CLOSE, SAWBRIDGEWORTH

- Four Bedrooms
- Garage & Driveway
- Quiet Cul-De-Sac
- CHAIN FREE
- Detached Home
- Two Receptions
- Southerly Rear Garden
- EPC Rating: TBC

£475,000



TATTON STREET, NEWHALL

- Four Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Immaculate Home
- Double Garage
- Detached House
- Two Receptions
- En-Suite Shower
- EPC Rating: C

£455,000



THE GOWERS, HARLOW

- Four Bedrooms
- Garage & Driveway
- Desirable Location
- Large Extension
- Semi Detached Home
- High Spec Finish
- Quiet Cul-De-Sac
- EPC Rating: TBC

£450,000



BROOKLANE FIELD, HARLOW

- Four Bedrooms
- Two Receptions
- G/Floor Extension
- Landscaped Garden
- Semi Detached
- Modern Kitchen
- Garage & Driveway
- EPC Rating: D

£450,000



DENBY GRANGE, CHURCH LANGLEY

- Four Bedrooms
- Two Receptions
- Dressing Room
- Garage & Drive
- Link detached
- En-suite to Master
- Cul-De-Sac Spot
- EPC Rating: C

£429,995



DACRES GATE, ONGAR

- Two bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Ground Floor W.C
- Craft Lodge Potting
- End Of Terrace
- Gated Development
- Exclusive Location
- EPC Rating: D

£415,000



GOLDCREST WAY, NEWHALL

- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Modern Kitchen
- Driveway
- Detached Property
- En-Suite Shower Room
- Balcony
- EPC Rating: B

£375,000



MULBERRY GREEN, OLD HARLOW

- Two Bedrooms
- Modern Kitchen
- Open Plan Living
- Parking Area
- End Of Terrace
- Pretty Cottage
- Private Location
- EPC Rating: B

£364,995



DOULTON CLOSE, CHURCH LANGLEY

- Three Bedrooms
- Driveway For 3 Cars
- Three Receptions
- CHAIN FREE
- End Terrace Home
- En-suite To Master
- Unoverlooked Garden
- EPC Rating: TBC

£340,000



MORNINGSONS, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Garage & Driveway
- Westerly Garden
- Quiet Cul-De-Sac
- Link Detached Home
- Conservatory
- Needs Modernisation
- EPC Rating: TBC

£340,000



FULLERS MEAD, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Driveway
- Popular Location
- CHAIN FREE
- Semi detached
- Lounge/Diner
- Cul-De-Sac Spot
- EPC Rating: TBC

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Manor Road, Old Harlow **£334,995**

- Three Bedrooms
- Two Receptions
- Long Gardens
- CHAIN FREE
- Semi Detached
- Conservatory
- Popular Location
- EPC Rating: E



Pytt Field, Harlow **£315,000**

- Three Bedrooms
- Modern Fitted Kitchen
- Two Parking Spaces
- CHAIN FREE
- End Of Terrace
- Cul-De-Sac Spot
- Westerly Garden
- EPC Rating: TBC



Alexander Mews, Harlow **£300,000**

- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Parking Spaces
- Two Parking Spaces
- CHAIN FREE
- End Terrace Chalet Bungalow
- Well Presented
- Gated Development
- EPC Rating: TBC



ALEXANDER MEWS, HARLOW

- Two Bedrooms
- Gated Development
- Allocated Parking
- CHAIN FREE
- Chalet Bungalow
- Lounge/Diner
- Popular Location
- EPC Rating: C

£299,995



FELMONGERS, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Potential For Drive STP
- Two Receptions
- CHAIN FREE
- Terraced Home
- Desirable Location
- Westerly Garden
- EPC Rating: TBC

£299,995



WILLOWFIELD, HARLOW

- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- New Kitchen & Bathroom
- South/West Facing Garden
- Bungalow
- CHAIN FREE
- Well Presented
- EPC Rating: D

£299,950



SADLERS MEAD, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Driveway
- Lounge/Diner
- Popular Location
- Middle Terrace Home
- Southerly Garden
- Utility Room
- EPC Rating: C

£295,000



FESANTS CROFT, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Two Receptions
- Immaculate Home
- West Facing Garden
- Terraced Property
- Overlooking Fields
- Modern Kitchen
- EPC Rating: D

£294,995



AYNSLEY GARDENS, CHURCH LANGLEY

- Two Double Bedrooms
- Driveway
- Lounge/Diner
- Well Presented
- Semi Detached Home
- Popular Location
- Southerly Garden
- EPC Rating: TBC

£289,995



SPINNING WHEEL MEAD, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Conservatory
- Close To Amenities
- Terraced House
- Well Presented
- Cul-De-Sac Location
- EPC Rating: TBC

£284,995



BARN MEAD, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Cloakroom/WC
- Quiet Cul-De-Sac
- Middle Terrace
- Drangery
- Popular Location
- EPC Rating: D

£280,000



PERRY SPRING, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Driveway
- Kitchen/Diner
- Unoverlooked Garden
- Middle Terrace
- Conservatory
- Cloakroom/WC
- EPC Rating: TBC

£279,995



WESTFIELD, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Driveway
- Lounge/Diner
- CHAIN FREE
- Middle Terrace House
- Popular Location
- EPC Rating: TBC

£275,000



TICKENHAN DRIVE, CHURCH LANGLEY

- Two Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Brist Room
- Recent Bathroom
- Parking For Two
- Middle Terrace
- Cul-De-Sac Location
- Southerly Garden
- EPC Rating: C

£274,995



BUSHEY CROFT, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Well Presented
- Quiet Cul-De-Sac
- Middle Terrace
- Westerly Garden
- Popular Location
- EPC Rating: D

£273,995

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Coalport Close, Church Langley **£270,000**

- Two Bedrooms
- Stunning Kitchen/Diner
- Cul-De-Sac Location
- Two Parking Spaces
- Middle Terrace Home
- Well Presented Throughout
- Southerly Rear Garden
- EPC Rating: TBC



Abbotsweld, Harlow **£269,995**

- Three Bedrooms
- Dining Area
- Modern Kitchen
- Extended Property
- Terraced House
- Westerly Facing Garden
- Popular Location
- EPC Rating: TBC



Bentley Drive, Church Langley **£267,500**

- Two Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- CHAIN FREE
- Allocated Parking
- Middle Terrace
- Ground Floor W.C
- Cul-De-Sac Spot
- EPC Rating: D



THE GARDINERS, CHURCH LANGLEY

- Two Bedrooms
- CHAIN FREE
- Two Parking Spaces
- Well Presented
- Middle Terrace
- Southerly Garden
- Cul-De-Sac Location
- EPC Rating: TBC

GUIDE PRICE £270,000



CROSSBILL WAY, NEWHALL

- Two Bedrooms
- En-Suite Shower Room
- Open Plan Living
- Own Balcony
- Apartment
- Ground Floor
- Allocated Parking
- EPC Rating: B

£267,500



SHAWBRIDGE, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception
- Extended Property
- CHAIN FREE
- Terraced House
- Overlooking Green
- Close To Amenities
- EPC Rating: TBC

£260,000



DUNSTALLS, HARLOW

- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Conservatory
- Popular Location
- Terraced Home
- Backs Onto Fields
- Lots Of Storage
- EPC Rating: TBC

£255,000



MOORFIELD, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Popular Location
- CHAIN FREE
- Terraced Home
- Ideal Investment
- Cloakroom/WC
- EPC Rating: TBC

£245,000



MILWARDS, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Cloakroom/WC
- CHAIN FREE
- Terraced House
- Ideal Investment
- Potential To Improve
- EPC Rating: C

£230,000



LOWER MEADOW, HARLOW

- Four Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Ground Floor WC
- CHAIN FREE
- End Terrace House
- Popular Location
- Ideal Investment
- EPC Rating: D

£230,000



TORKILDTSEN WAY, HARLOW

- Two Double Bedrooms
- Allocated Parking
- Desirable
- Ideal Location
- First Floor Apartment
- Close To Station
- Lounge/Diner
- EPC Rating: TBC

£230,000



PRIORY COURT, HARLOW

- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Basement
- Garage En-Bloc
- Private Apartment
- First Floor
- Modern Kitchen
- EPC Rating: C

£229,995



SOUTHERN LODGE, HARLOW

- Two Bedrooms
- Residents Parking
- Warden Assisted
- CHAIN FREE
- First Floor Apartment
- Lounge/Diner
- Communal Gardens
- EPC Rating: D

£219,995



GUILFORDS, OLD HARLOW

- Two Bedrooms
- Open Plan
- Well Presented
- CHAIN FREE
- First Floor Apartment
- Desirable Location
- Communal Garden
- EPC Rating: C

£210,000



BERECROFT, HARLOW

- One Bedroom
- Lounge/Diner
- Well Presented
- Chain Free
- Detached Bungalow
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- Fully Available
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With Lesley Taylor

HOME STYLE

The interior trends for 2019 are here and lavish colours, opulent accessories and a plethora of patterns are all in style

The only decorating dominating your home right now might be of the Christmas variety, but the new year is fast approaching and with it comes a glorious selection of fabulous interior trends.

And one thing is certain: it's time to forget the old 'less is more' adage and embrace 2019's maximalism approach to home decoration.

MIX IT UP

Clashing patterns and mixed metal accessories are two of the biggest trends heading into the home in 2019. Gone are the days when all accessories had to match; now it's time to embrace differences and let them shine.

It takes a lot of confidence to pair clashing patterns in the home but it's a look that you can experiment with, working your way up from small accessories – such as contrasting scatter cushions and bedspreads – to full on clashes between sofa and curtains.

How do you make it work? Find a similar colour in both patterns to draw the pieces together.

As for the mixed metal look, don't be afraid to combine accessories in gold and brass or silver and pewter for an on-trend home.

ALL THE TRIMMINGS

Trimmings are not solely for Christmas dinner. In fact, expect to see them everywhere next year.

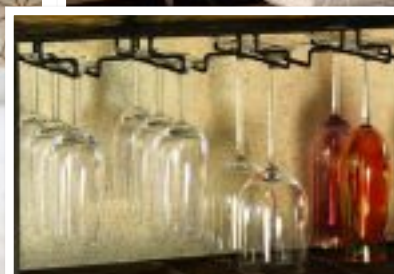
From tassels to fringing and everything in between, embellishment is making a massive comeback in 2019. It's not just soft furnishings which will be given the



This stunning room is kitted out in Harlequin patterns and combines the Equalize curtains (£69 per m) with Axal wallpaper (£69 per 10m roll) – both available at stylelibrary.com/harlequin



If you want to incorporate clashing patterns the bed is a great place to start



Stowing your glasses has never been more stylish

THE NEW LOOK

trimming treatment – although as always, investing in some trim-tastic cushions and throws is the perfect way to ease yourself in with this trend.

Lampshades, mirrors, pouffes, wall art and curtains will all be getting a fringing makeover.

Trimmings add texture and drama, something which has been missing from the minimalist looks of the last two decades. Pair just the right amount of trim with your existing interior and you will create a contemporary look that pays homage to decades past.

SOCIAL SPACE

The move towards making the home more of a social space has flourished in recent years.

The rise of open plan living and bi-fold doors which, when the weather allows, creates a seamless extension of entertaining space, makes staying in the new going out.



Anything with a scalloped edge, such as these Fes tiles from The Baked Tile Company, are going to be massive in 2019 – bakedtiles.co.uk

It's a trend that led to the resurgence of the bar trolley, and while these art deco-inspired pieces

retain their popularity in 2019, the more permanent bar cabinet looks set to make an appearance on interior wish lists.

A home bar is the perfect place to store your favourite tipple, not to mention all the paraphernalia that helps you create it! Their surge in the popularity stakes means there are plenty on the market, with price points to suit most budgets.

For a truly on-trend piece, find one with a scalloped-detailing on the door and subtle shelving lights to ensure it looks every bit as good on the inside as it does on the outside.

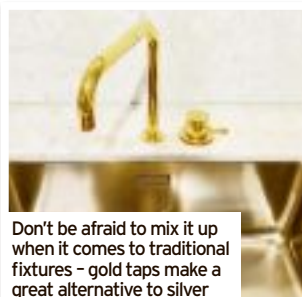
Make sure you place it somewhere with plenty of space around it, after all, people naturally congregate around a bar so you want to make sure there is plenty of wriggle room.

Then stock up on your favourite shorts and mixers, investing in some new glasses and inviting your friends round the toast the New Year!

LESLEY'S TOP TIPS FOR 2019

1. Clashing – mix patterns, colours and metal finishes for an on-trend 2019.
2. More is more, go for pieces that pack a punch with maximum trimmings.
3. Scalloped patterns are going to be huge.
4. Bar cabinets are the must-have accessory.
5. Look to art deco for your inspiration.

■ Lesley Taylor is the author of 10 interior design books and has appeared on a range of network TV shows, including This Morning, giving inspirational advice on home styling. For more on her work, head to lesleytaylor.co.uk



Don't be afraid to mix it up when it comes to traditional fixtures – gold taps make a great alternative to silver

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£220,000

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Priors Court)

Larger than average top floor one bedroom apartment. Large living/dining room, fitted kitchen, newly fitted bathroom, double bedroom. No onward chain. Sole agents.



£239,950

LITTLE HALLINGBURY

2 bedroom character cottage in a village centre location with a large rear garden. In need of some modernisation and renovation. Short drive to Bishops Stortford train station. Offered with vacant possession and no onward chain. Sole agents.



£250,000

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Kingshead Court)

Extremely rare ground floor two bedroom apartment with its own single garage in the village centre. Two double bedrooms, large living/dining room, kitchen and bathroom. Offered with no onward chain and vacant possession. Sole agents.



£259,950

Sheering

Beautifully presented 1 bed character cottage with many period features including open fireplace and original timbers. With sitting room, kitchen, double bedroom, contemporary bathroom, long rear garden, gas central heating and double glazing. No chain.



£389,950

LITTLE HALLINGBURY

Beautifully presented 3 bedroom house in a semi-rural position. Short drive to Bishops Stortford train station. Open plan living space including a luxury kitchen/dining room. Backing on to countryside and open fields beyond. Must be viewed. Sole agents.



£395,000

SAWBRIDGEWORTH

Nearly new detached 3 bedroom home with a lovely open plan ground floor layout with luxury kitchen, large living room dining room, separate w.c., corner plot. En suite to master bedroom. Ideally situated for Leventhorpe School and a short walk to the mainline railway station.



£400,000

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Church Walk)

Renovated 3 bedroom detached home in a prime position of the village. 5 mins walk to the station and in the heart of the village. Extended by its current owner and scope for second storey extension (stp). Driveway and parking for 2 cars. Sole agents.



£460,000

HATFIELD HEATH

Spacious 4 bedroom cottage with a large living room, separate dining room, kitchen, ground floor shower room, large first floor bathroom and off-street parking. Close to village centre. Sole agents.



£465,000

HATFIELD BROAD OAK (Broad Street Green)

Imposing double fronted village house with 2-3 bedrooms, large living room, south westerly facing garden, excellent parking and a modern kitchen. Beautifully presented. Vendor ready to go. Sole agents.



£500,000

FYFIELD

Beautifully renovated and extended modern home. Fantastic views, open plan contemporary kitchen/living room, utility, w.c., 3 bedrooms, en-suite shower room, family bathroom, 80ft rear garden backing on to farmland, driveway and parking. No onward chain.



£500,000

SPELLBROOK

3-4 bedroom semi-detached home with lots of potential, double garage, lots of parking, large garden and outbuildings. Potential building plot (stp). No onward chain. Sole agents.



£625,000

TAKELEY (Harris Road)

Spacious 5 bedroom detached home with a double garage. Beautifully presented and high specification throughout with fantastic views onto meadowland and Hatfield Forest beyond. 3 reception rooms, utility, downstairs w.c., 2 modern en-suite shower rooms plus family bathroom. Must be viewed. Sole agents.



£650,000

HATFIELD HEATH (Pond Lane)

4 bedroom detached Victorian house overlooking the Heath. 3 reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room, 80ft sunny rear garden, outbuildings, double garage, period features. Sole agents.



1,150,000

GREAT DUNMOW (Ongar Road)

Imposing barn conversion in excess of 4,000 sq ft. Four bedrooms plus one bedroom attached cottage. Beautiful rural location. Magnificent accommodation. Offered with vacant possession. Joint sole agents.



£1,375,000

HATFIELD BROAD OAK

Substantial single storey luxury home in just under 1 acre. Brand new and ready for occupation. Spacious and contemporary accommodation including 4 bedrooms, 4 en-suites, gated entrance, fantastic parking, double garage. Keys available. Sole agents.



£750pcm

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Waterside Place)

Unfurnished one bed apartment situated in this ever popular Grade II listed building, just a 30 second walk from the mainline station. Entrance hall, bedroom with built-in wardrobe, updated bathroom, fitted kitchen and sitting room. Views over the communal gardens and parking. Available Mid January.



£900 pcm

STANSTED (Recreation Ground)

A ground floor two bedroom maisonette in a sought after location in the centre of Stansted, short walk to mainline station and facilities. The property comprises entrance hall, large kitchen/breakfast room, sitting room, two bedrooms and bathroom. There is allocated parking and garden to front.



£900 pcm

BISHOP'S STORTFORD (Braziers Quay)

Unfurnished, top floor two bedroom apartment, just a short walk to the town centre and mainline station. The property comprises entrance hall, two bedrooms, newly fitted bathroom, good size living room/dining room and newly fitted kitchen. The property has fine views to the rear over the River Stort and is available Now.



£950pcm

OLD HARLOW (Riverside Court)

Two bedroom, first floor apartment situated in this highly sought after gated, riverside development. Immaculately presented enjoying a bright lounge with balcony over looking the river Stort, two bedrooms, fitted kitchen and bathroom. Allocated parking.



£1,050 pcm

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Duckling Lane)

A two bed cottage in the village centre. Mainline railway station 8 Min Walk. The property is offered unfurnished and enjoys a good sized sitting room, new kitchen with integrated appliances, two bedrooms, en-suite, separate bathroom and communal terrace. Available Now.



£1,100 pcm

STANSTED (Manor Road)

Three bedroom, semi detached family home located within walking distance of mainline station. The property has been newly redecorated throughout and enjoys a bright living room, good size kitchen dining area, downstairs w.c., family bathroom. Rear garden and tandem parking for 2 cars. Available now.



£1,150 pcm

DUNMOW (Mill Gate Cottages)

Semi-detached three bedroom unfurnished cottage. Downstairs wc, fitted kitchen leading to sitting/dining room, three bedrooms and family bathroom to first floor, large garden with ample parking and fine rural views. Available late December.



£1,250 pcm

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Ladywell Prospect)

Three bedroom, end of terrace home only a short distance from the town centre and mainline station. The property comprises entrance hall, downstairs wc, sitting room, conservatory, fitted kitchen with breakfast area and bathroom. Gardens to the front and rear and allocated parking. Available Now.



£1250 pcm

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Queens Close)

3 bedroom mid-terrace, unfurnished home only a short walk to amenities and station. Property comprises entrance hall, downstairs wc, sitting/dining room, fitted kitchen with breakfast area and conservatory. 3 bedrooms and family bathroom. Rear garden and garage.



£1295 pcm

SHEERING (The Plashets)

3 semi detached family home situated in a quiet location, short drive from Sawbridgeworth's mainline station. Bright lounge, kitchen/dining room, downstairs wc and conservatory, 2 double bedrooms, further single bedroom, fitted bathroom. Enclosed rear garden, garage and driveway.

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£199,995

BISHOPSFIELD, HARLOW

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- End Of Terrace
- Private Garden
- Bungalow
- Popular Spot
- EPC Rating: F



£235,000

TICKENHALL DRIVE, CHURCH LANGLEY

- One Bedroom
- End Terrace
- Own Garden
- Two Parking
- Lounge/Diner
- EPC Rating: TBC



£264,995

HADLEY GRANGE, CHURCH LANGLEY

- Two Bedrooms
- Mid Terrace
- Two Allocated Parking
- Kitchen / Diner
- Close To Amenities
- EPC Rating: TBC



£270,000

WESTFIELD, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Semi Detached
- Private Rear Garden
- Modern Interior
- Complete Upper Chain
- EPC Rating: E



£320,000 - £325,000

NEW ROAD, OLD HARLOW

- Two Bedrooms
- Victorian Period
- Courtyard Garden
- Semi Detached
- Heart Of Old Harlow
- EPC Rating: TBC



£339,995

SAKINS CROFT, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Garage & Driveway
- Cul De Sac Spot
- Two Receptions
- Semi Detached
- EPC Rating: TBC



£368,000

BURY ROAD, OLD HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Garage & Driveway
- Semi Detached
- Two Bathrooms
- EPC Rating: C



OIRO £392,000

AYNSLEY GARDENS, CHURCH LANGLEY

- Five Bedrooms
- Semi Detached
- Garage & Driveway
- Modern Kitchen
- Three Bathrooms
- EPC Rating: TBC



£399,995

HERONS WOOD, HARLOW

- Four Bedrooms
- Garage & Driveway
- Woodland Views
- Two/Three Receptions
- Large Family Home
- EPC Rating: TBC



£400,000

HONOR STREET, NEWHALL

- Three Bedrooms
- High Specification
- Award Winning
- Extended Terrace
- Allocated Parking
- EPC Rating: C



£410,000

FIR PARK, HARLOW

- Three/Four Bedrooms
- Bedroom Four/Study
- Conservatory
- Detached
- Chain Free
- EPC Rating: TBC



£425,000

COPSE HILL, HARLOW

- Four Bedrooms
- Semi Detached
- Two Receptions
- Downstairs W.C
- Garage & Driveway
- EPC Rating: TBC



£430,000

THE CHASE, NEWHALL

- Four Bedrooms
- Studio Over Garage
- Two Receptions
- Two Bathrooms
- Parking & Parking
- EPC Rating: C



GUIDE: £475,000 - £495,000

GLEBELANDS, HARLOW

- Three Bedrooms
- Detached
- Garage & Drive
- Balcony To Master
- CHAIN FREE
- EPC Rating: TBC



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DAVENPORT, CHURCH LANGLEY

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- Detached
- Three Receptions
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- Extended
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TEST DRIVE

Mazda2 1.5 115ps GT Sport Nav

INTRODUCING THE NEW BREED OF HATCHBACK

BY **DAVID WARD**

THE days of the out-and-out 'hot hatchbacks' for so-called boy racers may have long gone because the current breed of buyers now of all ages who want a sporty fun to drive supermini need the car to be more refined, quieter and with a few more home comforts on board.

Subtly is the key now to such go-faster little hatchbacks and of course affordability which is why the latest such supermini from Mazda may well fit the bill for many would-be buyers in this sector.

Mazda has not gone down the usual turbocharging route either for this kind of car with their normally aspirated 1.5-litre petrol engine now offered in GT Sport trim with a choice of two power outputs – 88bhp or 113bhp.

The later one naturally has a that little bit extra grunt in terms of acceleration and whilst in out and out sports performance terms it's not quite up to the rivals like the Ford Fiesta ST it's still certainly no slacker out on the road.

The Mazda2 115ps GT Sport Nav+ will zip from 0 to 62mph in nine sec-

onds and helped by an excellent light yet positive feeling six-speed manual gearbox provides enough spirited driving to suit most people's needs.

Two important plus points too is that with sensible use of that gearbox mid range acceleration for quick overtaking is comfortable and even when pushed hard it remains a remarkably quiet and civilised supermini, unlike some rivals which are quite noisy when accelerating hard.

Mazda claims that this 113bhp version has a top speed of 129mph but realistically it has that extra bit needed with its free revving engine when overtaking sensibly and it sits well at motorway speeds and although it may lack a little of low down torque that turbo engines offer at low speeds it's definitely no slouch.

The ride is firm as one would expect of any supermini but by no means uncomfortable although bumps and road divots are felt more but whatever the road conditions sitting on 16-inch alloy wheels it always feels safe and quite and offers quite an enjoyable driving experience.

Coming in at a basic price of



£17,395 the 113bhp version represents good value for money to anyone seriously looking at this kind of supermini and like any new car today there's a host of optional extras buyers can choose to personalise their own car.

Inside this five-door supermini the seats offer decent enough lumbar support, the all round interior finishing is typically up to Mazda standards (the test car had a distinctive light stone leather trim) and standard kit includes a nice large rev counter with an inset numerical speedometer, decent size infotainment

touchscreen on top of the dashboard, clear to read at a glance and simple to use for its numerous information.

With this GT Sport Nav+ buyers obviously get a few nice extras on board as standard such as a head-up display, DAB radio, cruise control, speed limiter, LED daytime running lights, heated front seats and that ever so useful reversing camera.

In terms of fuel consumption as with any supermini with sporty pretensions it's a matter of how it's driven but most drivers should be able to clock up between the 40 and

AT A GLANCE

- Model: Mazda2 1.5 115ps GT Sport Nav+
- Price: £17,395
- Engine: 1.5-litre 113bhp normally aspirated petrol
- Transmission: Six-speed manual gearbox
- Performance: 0 to 62mph 9 seconds, top speed 129mph
- Fuel consumption: 50.4mpg combined
- CO2: 127g/km
- Insurance Group: 20E
- Warranty: Three years/60,000 miles

45mpg mark without too much trouble.

With the normal 60/40 split rear seats the actual luggage space with all seats occupied registers 280 litres which is about par for the course of superminis and there's a surprising amount of rear seat knee and leg space to accommodate two full sized adults.

Overall a quite civilised so-called 'hot hatch' which is fun to drive, still practical and affordable to run with the big question for buyers is whether to go for the 89 or 113bhp version – the former cost £700 less.

As usual it's down to individual choice and of course finances.

TEST DRIVE

Suzuki Vitara



IMPRESSIVE VITARA

BY **MAXINE ASHFORD**

SUZUKI is developing quite an impressive line-up of cars these days with the compact Swift, practical S-Cross, charismatic Jimny and now the introduction of a new-look Vitara that the company claims is its most technically advanced car ever.

The latest five-door Vitara was launched in 2015 and has just undergone a facelift. There is extra safety kit, new powertrains, styling upgrades and a more upmarket interior.

In fairness, the Vitara was always a good-looking car with its athletic upright design, roof rails, rear privacy glass, wheel arch extensions and chrome lower grille. Now the designers have added extra appeal with the introduction of new front grille and bumper along with freshly restyled LED lights.

There's a choice of three well-equipped trim levels called SZ4, SZ-T and SZ5 and prices range from £16,999 to £25,649.

When it comes to the engine line-up, Suzuki has ditched the diesel option and there is now Boosterjet technology for the 1.0-litre and 1.4-litre turbocharged petrol engines. Other choices include manual or automatic gearboxes along with two or four-wheel drive.

The Vitara has lots of kit as standard and, depending on the trim level, expect to see smartphone link to connect a smartphone via Apple CarPlay or Android Auto, a good

audio set-up with DAB digital radio, a navigation system, Bluetooth, a colour touchscreen, a USB socket and plenty more.

Suzuki has also listened to customer feedback and the car now has a front armrest along with some soft-touch surfaces and improved seating.

We sampled the Vitara in mid-range SZ-T trim level powered by a punchy three-cylinder, 1.0-litre Boosterjet engine mated to a five-speed gearbox.

The car was priced at £20,799 and the only optional extra was specialist paint costing £800.

Suzuki engineers claim the 1.0-litre engine that has previously featured in the Suzuki Baleno, S-Cross and Swift, offers the same level of power and torque as a much larger capacity normally-aspirated 1.7 to 1.8-litre engine.

And it's a fair assessment – our car simply fizzed along. It's a car that's as happy on motorways as it is whizzing through the country lanes and there is a constant stream of power on tap, so overtaking slower-moving farm traffic is a breeze.

The 0-62mph sprint time is 12.0 seconds, but feels faster and the car maxes out at 111mph. It can deliver

combined fuel economy of 39.4mpg with carbon emissions of 162g/km on the new more realistic WLTP rating.

The road holding is impressive with minimal body movement even when pushed into corners and the cabin is well protected against any wind, road surface or engine noise.

I was impressed with how quiet the three-pot engine was – even when driven hard it remained relatively hushed. My only slight gripe was the lack of a sixth gear.

Our car also featured Suzuki's Allgrip all-wheel drive system which will keep you on course when driving in poorer weather conditions or on

more challenging terrain.

It has four modes called Auto, Sport, Snow and Lock. Auto maximises fuel efficiency and uses two-wheel drive as a default, Sport is best for twisty roads, Snow delivers extra grip and finally Lock is used for extricating the car from snow, mud or sand.

Passenger comfort levels are good with ample space in the back for a couple of adults – three if they don't mind rubbing shoulders.

The boot has a capacity of 375 litres which is increased to 710 litres with the 60:40 split-folding rear seats dropped flat and there is an adjustable boot floor to separate items such as wet gear or muddy boots.

Another plus factor is the cars maximum five-star Euro NCAP rating. This was achieved in 2015 and even more safety kit has been added to the 2019 car.

Features include a dual sensor brake support system that works between 3mph and 62mph. If it detects a possible collision with a person or vehicle ahead it offers a visual and audio warning. If the warnings are ignored it will start braking the vehicle.

Other safety systems include lane departure warning and lane keep assist, blind spot monitoring, adaptive cruise control, rear cross traffic alert and traffic sign recognition.

All in all, the latest Vitara is proof that Suzuki is a brand that is going places. It was already a good car, but they were not satisfied with that – now it's a great car.



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(10) Honda Jazz 1.4 ES-T 5dr, in red, one owner, full service, great condition, fresh 1 year MOT	£4699 or £19pw
(64) Fiat Punto 1.2 Easy 3dr, in white, one owner, parking sensors, alloys, AC and much more	£4999 or £20pw
(11) Hyundai i30 1.4 Comfort 5dr (ISG), in black, 1 previous owner, FSH, sat nav, panoramic roof	£4999 or £20pw
(09) Ford Fiesta 1.25 Zetec 5dr, in silver, full service history, bluetooth, air con and more	£4999 or £20pw
(11) Skoda Fabia 1.2 TSI Monte Carlo 5dr, in red, 1 previous owner, fsh, heated front seats, tinted glass	£5499 or £22pw
(59) Volkswagen Polo 1.4 SE 5dr, in red, 1 previous owner, full service history, low mileage, tinted glass	£5699 or £24pw
(62) Vauxhall Zafira 1.6 i VVT 16v Design 5dr, in bronze, 7 seater MPV, 1 previous owner, tinted glass	£5999 or £25pw
(63) Nissan Note 1.2 DIG-S Acenta Premium 5dr, in black, 1 previous owner, full Nissan history, sat nav, bluetooth	£5999 or £25pw
(14) SEAT Ibiza 1.4 16v Toca Sport Coupe 3dr, in white, 1 previous owner, full service history, sat nav, bluetooth	£5999 or £25pw
(15) Nissan Micra 1.2 Acenta 5dr, in white, 1 previous owner, full service history, parking sensors, alloys	£5999 or £25pw
(08) Toyota Prius 1.5 T Spirit CVT 5dr, in blue, great condition, great mileage, full service history, high spec	£5999 or £25pw
(15) Volkswagen UP! 1.0 Move up! 5dr, in red, full Volkswagen history, 1 owner, great first car	£5999 or £25pw
(14) Nissan Micra 1.2 Acenta 5dr, in silver, sat nav, bluetooth, climate, alloys and more	£5999 or £25pw
(64) SEAT Ibiza 1.2 TSI FR Sport Coupe 3dr, in black, 1 previous owner, sat nav, bluetooth FR body kit	£6299 or £25pw
(13) Fiat 500C 1.2 Lounge 2dr, in red, 1 owner, full flat service history, bluetooth, half leather	£6299 or £25pw
(13) MINI Hatch 1.6 Cooper (Sport Chili) 3dr, in blue, one owner, bluetooth connectivity, DAB radio	£6699 or £26pw
(10) Honda FR-V 1.8 i-VTEC EX 5dr, in silver, one owner, full service history, Bluetooth, Leather Upholstery, Parking Sensors	£6699 or £26pw

CARS PER WEEK

(14) Ford Fiesta 1.0 Zetec (s/s) 5dr, in white, locally owned, great condition, alloys and more	£6699 or £26pw
(66) Toyota Aygo 1.0 VVT-i x-play 5dr, in red, full Toyota service history, low mileage, £0 a year road tax	£6999 or £29pw
(65) Fiat 500 1.2 Lounge (s/s) 3dr, in mint green, one owner, full flat service history, parking sensors, pan roof	£6999 or £29pw
(62) Renault Scenic 1.6 VVT Dynamique Tom Tom 5dr, in silver, 1 previous owner, Sat nav, parking sensors, bluetooth	£6999 or £29pw
(64) Toyota Yaris 1.33 VVT-i Icon 5dr, in black, great condition, very low mileage, £30 a year road tax	£6999 or £29pw
(62) Honda Civic 2.2 i-DTEC ES 5dr, in black, climate control, alloys, full service history and much more	£6999 or £29pw
(63) Ford B-Max 1.4 Zetec 5dr, in silver, full service history, parking sensors, electric folding wing mirrors, DAB	£6999 or £29pw
(62) Nissan Juke 1.6 16v Visia 5dr, in black, 1 previous owner, full service history, immaculate inside and out	£6999 or £29pw
(15) Smart Fortwo 1.0 Prime (s/s) 2dr, in silver, low mileage, sat nav, pan roof, heated leather seats	£7499 or £34pw
(63) Volkswagen Polo 1.4 Match Edition 5dr, in black, low miles, full service history, bluetooth connectivity and more	£7499 or £34pw
(15) Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 CDTi ecoFLEX Design 5dr, in silver, 1 previous owner, full service history, cruise, hill start	£7699 or £36pw
(65) Mazda2 1.5 SE-L Nav (s/s) 5dr, in blue, one owner, bluetooth, parking sensors, DAB radio	£7999 or £40pw
(12) Volkswagen Golf Match, Diesel AUTO, in grey, Parking Sensors, Touch screen media system, Bluetooth, DAB Radio	£7999 or £40pw
(65) Vauxhall Astra 1.6 SRI AUTO, in blue, one owner, full service history, Parking Sensors, Aux in, alloys and much more	£7999 or £40pw
(10) Honda Accord 2.0 i-VTEC ES GT 4dr, in silver, 1 previous owner, full Honda service history, climate control, half leather	£7999 or £40pw
(61) Nissan Qashqai 1.5 dCi N-TEC 2WD 5dr, in black, 1 previous owner, sat nav, reversing camera, Pan Roof and more	£7999 or £40pw
(63) Renault Capture 0.9 Tce Expression +, in blue, Full service history, Bluetooth Connectivity, Cruise Control and more	£7999 or £40pw
(12) Volkswagen Golf 1.6 TDI Match DSG 5dr, in grey, parking sensors, bluetooth connectivity, tinted glass and more	£7999 or £40pw
(15) Renault Clio 0.9 Tce Dynamique S Nav 5dr, in red, one owner, full service history, Sat nav, parking sensors	£7999 or £40pw
(62) Volkswagen Golf 1.6 TDI Match, in silver, full service history, 1 owner, parking sensors, alloys	£7999 or £40pw

CARS PER WEEK

(66) Peugeot 208 1.2 PureTech Active, in black, one owner, low mileage, full service history, parking sensors and more	£7999 or £40pw
(13) Ford S-Max 1.6 TDCi Zetec 5dr, in silver, 1 owner, full service history, parking sensors and more	£7999 or £40pw
(15) Volkswagen Polo 1.4 TDI BlueMotion Tech SE, in blue, one owner, full VW service history, touch screen, bluetooth	£7999 or £40pw
(63) Ford Focus 1.0 SCTi EcoBoost Titanium Navigator, in red, full service history, sat nav, cruise, parking sensors	£7999 or £40pw
(62) Toyota Auris 1.6 V-Matic Icon M Drive Auto, in red, full Toyota service history, sat nav, bluetooth and more	£8299 or £41pw
(14) Vauxhall Mokka 1.7 CDTi ecoFLEX SE, in grey, one previous owner, full service history, parking sensors, leather trim	£8499 or £41pw
(64) Abarth 500 1.4 T-JET, in grey, 1 previous owner, alloys, privacy glass, alloys and much more	£8499 or £41pw
(62) BMW 1 Series 2.0 116d SE, in blue, colour screen, bluetooth connectivity, alloys, great mileage	£8499 or £41pw
(65) Vauxhall Corsa 1.4i Limited Edition, in white/black, 1 owner, full service history, great spec	£8499 or £41pw
(15) Volkswagen Polo 1.0 TSI BlueMotion Tech SE, in white, 1 previous owner, full service history, great spec and more	£8499 or £41pw
(15) Nissan Pulsar dci N-TEC, in blue, 1 owner, sat nav, reversing camera, bluetooth, DAB radio and more	£8699 or £42pw
(10) Nissan Qashqai 1.6 TEKNA, in black, full dealer service history, sat nav, pan roof, leather, top spec	£8699 or £42pw
(15) Vauxhall Zafira Tourer 1.4 Turbo Exclusiv, 7 seater MPV, in black, low mileage, one previous owner, great spec and more	£8999 or £43pw
(14) Nissan Juke Acenta 5dr, in black, low mileage, bluetooth connectivity, cruise control, alloys	£8999 or £43pw
(63) Nissan Juke 1.6 16v Tekna CVT 5dr, in grey, heated leather seats, sat nav, parking camera, and much more	£8999 or £43pw
(11) BMW X1 2.0 18d SE xDrive 4x4, in grey, parking aid, tinted windows, AWD and much more	£9299 or £43pw
(64) Vauxhall Mokka 1.4 Turbo SE 5dr, in Orange, leather upholstery, cruise control, parking sensors	£9499 or £44pw
(13) BMW 1 Series 120d M Sport 2dr, in blue, upgraded alloys, climate control and much more	£9499 or £44pw
(15) Mazda 6 Sport Nav saloon 4DR, in white, one previous owner, leather, nav, sensors, cruise control and much more	£9999 or £50pw
(66) Nissan Juke Acenta petrol, in black, one owner, full Nissan history, still under Nissan warranty till 2019 only 10k miles	£9999 or £50pw
(64) Citroen C4 Picasso Exclusiv 5DR MPV, in grey, Nav, Bluetooth, Rear camera, panoramic dah and more	£9999 or £50pw

CARS PER WEEK

(65) Jeep Renegade 1.4 MultiAir II Longitude, in black, one owner, full service history, Sat nav, cruise, bluetooth	£10499 or POA
(63) Audi A4 Avant SE technic estate, in grey, leather, sat nav, Bluetooth, parking sensors and many factory extras	£10699 or POA
(62) Mini Countryman Cooper D 5DR, in black with white roof, One owner, full history, pan roof, nav and much more	£10699 or POA
(13) BMW 3 Series 316i Sport saloon, in white, One previous owner, Sports Seats, cruise control, DAB radio, sensors	£10999 or POA
(14) Citroen Grand C4 Picasso Exclusive+ 7 Seater Diesel Auto, in bronze, full Citroen history, Nav, pan roof, leather trim	£10999 or POA
(65) Vauxhall Zafira Tourer 1.4 SRI 7 Seater AUTO, in silver, one owner, FSH, Parking sensors, cruise control, 18" alloys	£10999 or POA
(12) Mercedes Benz C Class C180 AMG Sport Estate, in black, Nav Ready, Full history, Bluetooth, parking sensors and leather	£10999 or POA
(14-16) Nissan Qashqai new shapes, Choice of 6, Pan roof, Sat nav, Bluetooth, Rear camera, cruise control and more from	£10999 or POA
(62) BMW 5 Series 520d M Sport Diesel Auto, in Grey, sat nav, Bluetooth, full black leather, parking sensors, cruise control	£11699 or POA
(65) BMW 1 Series 120d Sport Hatchback, in white, One Previous owner, Sat nav, Bluetooth, DAB radio, Upgraded sports seats	£11699 or POA
(16) Skoda Yeti SE Outdoor Petrol 5DR, in grey, One Owner, Full Skoda History, parking sensors, Bluetooth, tinted windows	£11999 or POA
(65) Volvo V40 R Design 5DR, in Black, One Owner, Full service history, Digital Dash, Bluetooth, heated seats and more	£12699 or POA
(64) Volkswagen Touran Tech SE DSH 7 Seater Diesel Auto, in blue, One previous owner, Bluetooth, alloys and more	£12999 or POA
(67) Vauxhall Astra 1.4 i 16v Turbo SRI Nav Hatchback, in silver, one owner, low mileage, Sat nav, Bluetooth, DAB radio, Cruise	£12999 or POA
(65) Renault Kadjar Signature Nav, One Owner, Full service history, Pan roof, Nav, Leather, Upgraded alloys, leather	£13999 or POA
(15) Ford Kuga 2.0 TDCi Titanium X, in grey, full service history, one owner, Leather Upholstery, Heated Seats, Pan roof, Sensors	£13999 or POA
(64) Jeep Cherokee Limited, in blue, low mileage, one owner, Sat nav, Bluetooth, leather, cruise control and much more	£14699 or POA
(15) Vauxhall Insignia VXR Petrol, in black, full Vauxhall history, nav, ouch screen, auto lights, top spec, climate control	£15699 or POA
(65) Ford Kuga 1.5 EcoBoost Titanium X AWD 5dr, in blue, full service history, DAB radio, heated front seats, DAB radio	£16999 or POA
(13) Toyota Prius + T Spirit petrol auto, in blue, full service history, hybrid, 7 seater, nav, pan roof and much more	£17999 or POA
(15) Mercedes-Benz E Class 3.0 E350 CDI BlueTEC AMG Line, in white, bluetooth, DAB radio, Heated front seats and more	£19999 or POA
(66) Ford Tourneo Custom 310 Titanium TDCI, in black, front and rear parking sensors, full leather, 9 seater	£19999 or POA
(65) BMW 6 Series Grand Coupe 640d M Sport, in blue, diesel, auto, sat nav, heads up display, full leather top spec	£22999 or POA

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TEST DRIVE

Ford Edge

KEEPING ITS EDGE

BY DAVID WHINYATES

ARAFT of improvements including the very latest technology and driver assistance systems are being incorporated into tweaked versions of Ford's top-of-the-range SUV which are due in dealerships in January.

Ford says that the 2019 Edge will be the company's most technologically advanced sports utility vehicle ever, offering a comprehensive range of camera and sensor-based driver assistance technologies designed to make journeys more comfortable and to help drivers avoid or mitigate the effects of collisions.

The new range will also be offered with a new, 238PS bi-turbo variant of Ford's two litre EcoBlue diesel engine mated to a new intelligent eight-speed automatic transmission which the company says delivers the power of a larger capacity engine but with the optimised fuel-efficiency of a smaller engine.

The new Edge also features an



enhanced version of the company's intelligent all-wheel-drive system which now has the ability to automatically switch seamlessly between

two-wheel drive and four wheel drive in milliseconds dependent on road conditions.

There are minor styling updates

including a wider grille with a unique finish for each trim level, a redesigned bonnet, LED head and taillamps and a freshened fascia.

Available tech - depending on model - includes adaptive cruise control with stop & go and lane centering, post collision braking and evasive steering assist which uses radar and a camera to detect slower-moving and stationary vehicles ahead and provides steering support to enable drivers to manoeuvre around a vehicle if a collision is imminent.

The new Edge also offers a new configurable digital instrument cluster with animated analogue-style instrumentation that allows drivers to personalise the layout of the speedometer, rev-counter and vehicle information displays to suit their own preferences.

Other comfort and convenience technologies include a full-length panorama roof, heated and cooled front seats, heated rear seats and a heated steering wheel - ideal for winter mornings.

As before, the latest Edge will be available in three trim levels - Titanium, ST-Line and Vignale - with prices starting from £36,995.

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The ideal candidate will be able to demonstrate:

- proven track record in leading a finance function ensuring sound financial controls and producing and interpreting management accounts, financial forecasts and statutory returns
- strong interpersonal skills with the ability to influence decisions and communicate clearly with staff at all levels including Trustees
- excellent IT skills with the ability to manage, manipulate and interpret financial data to inform the strategic decisions of the Trust
- the drive and ambition to develop the finance function to be the best that it can be through robust management and leadership of the Finance Team and its activities

In return the Trust can offer you:

- a forward looking, positive, and oversubscribed working environment
- a financially secure and innovative business organisation
- the opportunity to work with professional, committed and ambitious colleagues
- outstanding, highly personalised professional development opportunities
- the opportunity to contribute to our caring and stimulating community where young people are described by Ofsted as being ones who "work together exceptionally well," and who are "overwhelmingly enthusiastic about school"
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Relevant qualifications in finance and accountancy are (CIPFA, AAT, ACCA CIMA) or equivalent are desirable but not essential. The successful candidate will need to be flexible regarding working hours and location to meet the demands of the business.

For further details, please contact Tracey Backman, HR Director - tba@generationsmat.herts.sch.uk

Closing date for applications: 9:00am 17th December 2018

Interviews will be held week commencing 17th December 2018

The Trust is committed to safeguarding children and young people
 All postholders are subject to a satisfactory enhanced DBS check

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- Processing orders for products
- Contacting inactive customers to re-engage them with our services

Essential qualities

- Excellent computer skills and experience in using business systems such as CRMs

Qualifications

- GCSE or equivalent in English and Math's at grade C or above is essential

Benefits

- 30 days holiday per year • Childcare vouchers
- Bike to work scheme

Please email your CV to hr@ttnc.co.uk with a covering note outlining why you'd be the right person for this job and your responsibilities where you're currently working.

General**LETTINGS NEGOTIATORS REQUIRED**

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01992-785000
or send your CV to
Tatiana Carver
Kings Lettings LLP,
Crown House
24-25 Turners Hill
Cheshunt
Herts
EN8 8NJ

PROPERTY MANAGER

Are you an enthusiastic, hardworking individual, looking for a career in property management? Do you enjoy working with the public, can you meet the needs of our clients, and do you thrive under pressure in a busy environment? Do you have a clean full driving licence? Then a position in our property management department could be just the job for you.

kings
LETTINGS

email: ella.fletcher@kings-group.net

To apply call **Ella Fletcher**
01992-785000
or send your CV to:
Kings Lettings LLP,
Crown House,
24-25 Turners Hill,
Cheshunt, Herts EN8 8NJ.

BECOME A TOP SALES NEGOTIATOR

Role to include arranging viewings, calling applicants, negotiating offers, providing feedback to clients and providing a high level of customer service at all times. Experience is not essential as full training will be given. After an initial trial period, you will receive an annual basic salary of up to £15,000 depending on experience, plus commission, incentives and a company vehicle or car allowance, so a full driving licence is essential. By meeting sales targets you can expect to earn up to £30,000.

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82070 Individual items under £100 only*
Start your text with **HARLO** followed by a space
Advert comprising of no more than 20 words.
£1.50 All advertisements are subject to approval.

TRADE ADVERTISING

► **Browse Online**
essexlive.news/directory

► **Book Online**
bookanad.com **24/7**
01992 526666

Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm

FREE* under £100. When booked online only. Excludes Trade, Wanted, Pets, Property and Motors.
All adverts booked over the phone are charitable.

Classified

Articles For Sale

Wanted chesterfield sofas



We collect and pay cash for Chesterfield sofas, chairs and footstools

Call Bob on
07725040930

LAUREL BUSHES

SUPERB QUALITY,
POT GROWN IN HOLLAND.

3ft/4ft.

NOW IS THE TIME TO PLANT FOR
A FAST GROWING EVERGREEN
HEDGE.

(Same price as last year!
76.50 each)

CM11 1QN AREA

ONLY

£6.50

Tel: 01268 711002
or 07542880771

Doors Oak veneer internal doors, unused and good quality. All 1981x762mm. Three, solid 6 panel oak, one oak with 10 glass panels and one oak with three glass panels under half price each or good deal for the four. £40.00 one 01722 1635 or 07981 969102

Compound Saw Hitachi C10-CA cutting disc diameter 255mm motor 1640 Watts 5000rpm. Bevel mitre saw on full height stand with casters. Collection from Great Baddow, Chelmsford. £60.00 017754 972942 or 01245476144

Doors Internal doors, one pine with two decorative glass panels. Both 1981x762 mm. One primed white wood with four glass panels. Unused, good quality. 730 and 720 or deal for both. £30.00 one 0127221635 or 07981 969102

Single divan bed Single divan bed with 2 drawers. Memory foam mattress and faux brown leather headboard included. VGC must be seen. Buyer to collect. £80.00 01277219336 or 07760384050

CAST IRON BAR-B-Q Three legged bowl, with grate & grille, all in cast-iron. Dimensions about 12" Dia. and 12" tall. BRENTWOOD. £15 01277 223377

Leather settee Chocolate Brown 2 seater ex "Fishpools" settee. Excellent condition. Telephone 01992 587078 £100 07980 433509 or 07778 444311

Lintels Catnic 1500G catnic lintels x2. New and unused. Heavy duty, quality steel. 740.00 each or deal for both. £40.00 one 01277221635 or 07981 969102

Old comics 1 Bean and 1 Dandy, 8 monster comic 1 Buster and 1 Whizzer 1 Valour 1 Mickey Mouse 7 War Picture library Mainly 1970's £5 01279655366

Brass Kettle and Jam Pan Granny's Jam Pan, rigid fixed handle and large Brass Kettle. £50 01245 361073

fitness accessories body sculpture twist stepper with resistance cords (in enfield en3) £30 02088049934

sewing machine singer electric portable all accessories & carrying case instruction book new condition £50.00 01268769809

Single bed with headboard Single bed with headboard and sliding doors for underneath storage all in good condition £50 07724166759

CARAVAN OR BOAT POWER CABLE 24m (Orange with blue Plug & Socket on ends) BRENTWOOD. £30 01277 223377

Clothing Ladies Hotter shoes size 4, reddish brown colour, laced front, never worn £10 one 01277 821109

Coffee table Pine coffee table. 54"x34"x19"H. Underneath Shelf. Can deliver. £75 012777821149

G Plan Bedroom Furniture, G Plan 1960's Wardrobe and Dressing table. £40.00 01245 361073

HUNTER RIDER WELLINGTONS Black, size 7 in very good condition £35 ovno 01277 652018

Panasonic Sound Bar Theatre system with remote and leads. 75cm long, 20cm deep. £40 one 07817 835007

Domestic Appliances

Electrolux Oven Grill Element Brand New and sealed 2350w Grill Oven Element for AEG, Zanussi, Electrolux and Tricity. E-Spares part no. EL4024 £10 one 07484662666

Vacuum Cleaner Upright a good Electrolux Hoover works fine. Collection from Great Baddow, Chelmsford. £10.00 07754 972942 or 01245476144

central heating boiler gas made by Viessmann Vitodens 100 power flushed and ready to use. Comes with flue £100 07788190709 or 01245440306

Largish Room Heater Oil-filled (10 finned) Radiator type on casters. Gets lovely and hot. Thermostat controlled. £35 01245400026

Microwave Goodmans 650 Watt Large 1.2 cu.ft capacity, 7 power settings, manual controls W55.5cm H35cm D39.5cm (Romford) £10 07948 318956

DYSON DC41 + accessories, £50 one 01245355418

Fish & Game

African cichlids (10) Healthy & feeding with most being of good size £75 07724166759

Blinds/Curtains

Damask Quality Lounge Curtains 2 pairs Quality, Turquoise, Silky, Lined, Lounge Curtains & Ties. Drop 82", to fit 2 polished wooden poles and rings length 7ft & 8ft over 7500 new £79 one 01245 381020 or 07932 057205

JOHN LEWIS CURTAINS 2 pairs matching Sanderson Dandelion Clock pattern each curtain 66" wide x 84" long, fully lined with eyelet headings, hardly used. Ideal doors. Will separate 50 pounds per pair or both pairs £90 01277 652018

CURTAINS beautiful grey curtains with large pale pink motif, triple pleat heading, size 120 inches wide x 55 inches long. Professionally made and fully lined. As new £35 ovno 01277 652018 or 07851 254833

CURTAINS 88" wide x 72" long lined. Cream with art deco style pattern, large plum and coffee coloured tulip print, very attractive, eyelet heading, as new. £35 01277 652018

ROMAN BLIND with matching solid pelmet. Pale blue with boating scene. 53" wide (135cms) x 47" drop (120 cms). Professionally made and fully lined, vgc £25 01277 652018

Sheridan Curtains Brand new unopened pencil pleat 180cm width 137cm drop with tie backs. Fine cotton, lined, washable. Originally 7119 £35 01277 824103

NEXT CURTAINS each curtain 90" wide x 90" drop cream/red stripe, fully lined, eyelet headings, very good condition. £35 01277 652018

ORIGINAL VICTORIAN Antique Curtain Pole, Sins (20cm) diameter, with finials and rings. £30 ovno 01277 652018

Building Materials

DARK-STAIN internal DOOR 15'1" x 3'1" panes of Flemish Glass. Size 27 x 78 x 183/8 thick. Inches. Handles, No hinges. Recesses for ball-catch & double door flick-up. BRENTWOOD. £15 01277 223377

Hardcore Free clean hardcore rubble one builders bag full ideal path or shed base Chelmsford free £1.0 01245252849

hardwood front door 44mm thick with top fan light and door furniture. Good condition £100 07788190709 or 01245440306

MANHOLE SILL & COVER Cast iron cover & surround for ManHole. Imperial Dimensions obviously. BRENTWOOD £25 01277 223377

Arts & Crafts

SEWING MACHINE Brother LS-2125 model. Hardly ever used. Still in box, complete with instructions etc. Like new Bargain at only £50 01245 491909

CARAVAN OR BOAT POWER CABLE 10m Long. (Orange with blue Plug & Socket on ends) BRENTWOOD. £15 01277 223377

CHEESE-DISH & COVER Domed earthenware, 8 inch high, 10 inch diameter. Flowers and wickerwork design. BRENTWOOD. £60 01277 223377

Caravan & Camping

COOLER, Picnic by Ascot. Navy wheeled cooler with attached removable picnic set for 4. Includes plates/cutlery/napkins/glasses/cheeseboard/salt/pepper. £45 one 01245 355418

Antiques

Edwardian Walnut Tilt Top Table Edwardian Walnut dining table with a top that tilts so it can be stored out of the way when not in use. The top has a few marks on from use, but it is in pretty good condition. Table size:- Length 104cm, Width 77cm, Height 76cm £75 one Mrs Smith

ANTIQUE "MITTERTEICH" PORCELAIN CANDLE HOLDER WITH SNUFFER, stunning family item from 1898, bluish with gilt edge, delicate floral decoration on base & snuffer, clear backstamp, in truly pristine condition at 120 years old, £40 ovno 07770430427

Singer Treddle Sewing Machine chance to own a unique piece of history. Black frame with iconic Singer logo badge you will not be disappointed with this bit of furniture. Collection from Great Baddow, Chelmsford. £80.00 one 07754 972942 or 01245476144

VICTORIAN Extending wind out dining table plus additional leaf. Lovely oval table with shaped legs. 52 inches x 42 inches without leaf. Ratchet mechanism does need attention though which has been reflected in the price £45 01277 652018

HONEYCOMB DISH & COVER Ironstone Earthenware. 8 inch high 10 inch Diameter. Wicker Bee-skep & floral design. BRENTWOOD £60 01277 223377

JOHN CONSTABLE COAL-PORT CHINA Complete John Constable Coalport fine bone china plates complete with stands. Immaculate £100 one 07484662666

COAL or COKE DRUM Brass effect circular drum. D x H = 12 x 17 inches. Contains a Galv. inner. Circular Lid. BRENTWOOD £15 01277 223377

LLADRO 1980 original of girl sitting on a stool in traditional Spanish dress holding a bouquet of flowers, vgc £60 ovno 01277 652018

Edwardian Walnut Antique Chairs (42 Carvers and 2 Normal which are in very good condition. £95 one Mrs Smith

Articles Wanted

WANTED FOOTBALL ITEMS TOP CASH PRICES PAID FOR PRE 1980s MEMORABILIA PROGRAMMES, TICKETS, PRESS PHOTO'S, PIN BADGES, PANINI ALBUMS- ANY CLUBS, COMPETITIONS.

ESPECIALLY BULK LOTS OF ENTIRE COLLECTIONS.

ANY CLUBS FROM PREMIER TO NON LEAGUE

NO BOOKS, VIDEO'S, DVD OR SIGNED ITEMS

Tel: 07930 330485

Wanted Furniture

We collect and pay cash for furniture from one item to whole house

Please call Bob on
07725040930

Articles Wanted

WANTED OLD CAMERAS Best prices paid for your old photographic equipment.

35mm or Digital Camera, lens Canon, Pentax, Nikon, Olympus, Bronica, Tamron, Minolta, or any other photographic equipment you might think of interest.

Bellows Cameras Perhaps???

pturnerphotographics@gmail.com

Tel: 07929 340709

WANTED BICYCLES AND SPARES

Any condition and anything pre 1980 will be considered. Town bikes, Tandems, Shoppers. Choppers, Racers, Tricycles etc. Adults and children. Also job lot of spares bought. Anything older than 1980, ### no mountain bikes please ### Local man will collect and pay cash.

07972 630090

WANTED MODEL STEAM ENGINES

and petrol engines, Vintage toys and model workshops cleared.

Cash paid.

01787 377628 or 07811484124

Football Programmes

WANTED Local collector seeks especially pre-1970 items, Finals, European, England, Spurs, Arsenal, West Ham, Chelsea etc and Whole Collections.

01245 358660

Christmas Trees & Decorations

FIR CONES various sizes, large, medium, small and delicate florettes. Ideal for making Christmas arrangements. Price per bag £5 01277 652018

Christmas trees Approx 20 artificial trees for sale-various colours and sizes up to 6ft. Job lot £50 01277821149

House Clearance

PAUL'S HOUSE CLEARANCE Houses, Flats, Garages, Offices etc. Fully Licensed.

7 days a week. Call Paul anytime.

07973 492973

BOAT JUMBLE What offers for all my boat-jumble. Sold the boat! Now boat-bits have to go! BRENTWOOD. Offers only above £1 01277 223377

Windows & Doors

VERTICAL SLIDING Weights for sash windows 2 x 6.5lbs and 2 x 6lbs £20 one 01702 231002

Home Improvement

PILLAR Taps, in excellent condition never used £10 01702 231002

Classified

Collectors Items

CAMEO COLLECTABLES CLASSIC DRINKS COLLECTOR A set of 10 model vintage vans and lorries with the liveries of famous drink brands such as Malibu, Smirnoff, J&B, Long Gin, Drambuie etc. Made in diecast metal by Mattel in the UK. In as new condition in special presentation box. Can deliver. £14 01438318734 or 07988559201

CORGI MODEL BEDFORD OB COACH SET A set of 2 coaches to commemorate the history of coach registration number MN557 built in the UK in 1957 and was rescued and restored in the Netherlands in 1987. Made in diecast metal. In as new condition and boxed. Can deliver. £19 01438318734 or 07988559201

LEEDO "90 GLORIOUS YEARS" MODEL LIMOUSINE TO MARK THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF THE QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER ON 4TH AUGUST 1990. This was made in the UK in die-cast metal by Leedo. In as new condition and boxed. £25 01438318734 or 07988559201

CORGI MODEL PICKFORDS SCAMMELL CONSTRUCTOR WRECKER TRUCK. This is a limited edition number 14296 of only 4100 produced. Diecast metal 1:50 scale. In as new condition and boxed. Can deliver. £38 01438318734 or 07988559201

Merrythought Rabbit Large, mixed colours of brown, white rabbit with long ears, white tail, 50cm height, wide 25cm, full yellow label, very good condition, contact for photo £25 01438318734 or 07988559201

REAL SOFT TOYS TEDDYBEAR Light brown fur teddy by Watford firm, 42 cm x 25 x 15. Leather collar with bell. Teddy plastic label attached, photo available, very good condition £10 01438318734 or 07988559201

COLLECTION OF CORGI CARS, BUSES AND TRUCKS This is a collection of about 10 models that, very good many limited editions. Please contact for a list and prices. £0 01438318734 or 07988559201

HIP FLASK WITH OFFICIAL DC COMICS BATMAN LOGO 6 fl. oz. for whisky, brandy, etc. Brand new and unused and in its original packaging. Can deliver. £7 01438318734 or 07988559201

JELLYCAT PLUSH BEAR Very good condition, 1999 attached label, chocolate brown, very cuddly, 38 cm height, 40 cm wide, contact for photo £12 01438318734 or 07988559201

LEEDO VANGUARDS MODEL TRIUMPH HERALD SALOON CAR 1:43 scale in red. Made in diecast metal in the UK. In as new condition and boxed. Can deliver. £9 01438318734 or 07988559201

Decorative Plates Street Sellers of London complete set of 8, immaculate condition, wooden seat, gift or collectors item, photo available. £40 07833787038 or 01245901458

brief case old type brown brief case clean inside 3 compartments enfield en3 £15 02088049934

RAILWAY MODELLER magazines 50 pence each or 12 for 5 pounds £1 01702 231002

Clothing

LADIES winter coat size 12, long length medium brown with thick faux fur lining in a darker brown. Purchased from Selfridges a few years back but hardly worn. Cost over 400 pounds accept £30 01277 652018

Cold Weather Safety Suit condition, size medium/ Large. Waterproof, thermal and very warm. Ideal any type of outdoor pursuits. Bargain. £25 01277 652018

ITALIAN PURE WOOL SUIT by Mario Barutti, dark blue, double breasted 44" chest, trousers 38" waist/33" length only worn once, excellent condition £95 01277 652018

women's coat full length leather gothic style, 3 buckles front and back, buckle at neck, front zip, size 16, very good condition, buyer collects. £30 01245 603678

LADIES SKIRT Midnight blue, silky appearance by Next, size 10, very smart, only worn once, length 80 cm, photo available £10 075864885

Nike Hooded Gilet Royal blue, large boys age 12-15 (chest 152-158 cm), very good condition £10 01621 893321 or 07887842073

Clothing

PURE WOOL SUIT double breasted jacket 46" chest, trousers 40" waist, 32" long by British Tailor, Dunfermline, never worn £75 01277 652018

hi viz jacket made by Timco code hyvixg XLarge size unused and still in wrapper. £15 07788 190709 or 01245440306

Men's Coat Full length leather gothic metal style size XL, good condition, buyer collects. £30 01245 603678

women's boots new anarich purple velvet boots size 4, never worn. buyer collects £20 01245 603678

Computer/Games

DESKTOP COMPUTER CPU HEATSINK AND FAN AKASO Nero AK-967 for Intel and AMD processors. Suitable for Intel LGA775, LGA1366 and AMD 939, AM2 and AM2+ processors. Low noise bright black 120mm PWM fan. 3 Long heat pipes for rapid heat transfer. Easy push pin (intel) or cam lever (AMD) mounting. In good working order and can transfer. £17 01438318734 or 07988559201

COMPUTER 3-SHELF UNIT Black tubes & black ash wood finish, on casters. Size, HxDbx= 86x35x50 cm. 5 different units & sizes have BRENTWOOD. £15 01277 232377

DESKTOP COMPUTER RAM, 1GB, OCZ REAPER. HX (heat pipe conductivity), 240 pin DDR2 SDRAM, 1066MHz (PC2 8500), model no. OC2ZRP10662GK. In good working order and can deliver. £4 01438318734 or 07988559201

Palm Vx Handheld PDA includes notepad, sync cable & battery charger via serial port. Leather case, stylus pens. Handbook & CD. Boxed as brand new. Ideal for enthusiast or collector of electronics. £5.00 01277 655272

Samsung Galaxy Tab 3 - 7 inch Tablet - with all original accessories + box and come with Samsung branded case. The tablet is in mint condition. A bargain for serious buyers. Excellent Xmas present. £65 07746100626

3 SHELF COMPUTER UNIT Black ash finish to wood & black on metal tubes. On casters. Size HxDbx = 86x35x50 cm. 3 different models available. BRENTWOOD. £15 01277 232377

Apple iMac G5 (iMac6,1) White, 24inch, 2.5GB RAM, 256GB HD, OSX10.6.5, USB mouse, Apple extended keyboard, CD/DVD faculty. Collect only, Chelmsford. £75.00 01245 380915 or 07860 187017

Dell E6330 Windows 10 Laptop 4GB RAM CORE I3 320GB HDD 13.5 inch screen excellent condition. Clean Windows 10 install as new. £100 01438318734 or 07988559201

2 SHELF UNIT FOR COMPUTER Black tubes and black ash wood shelf unit on casters. HxWxD = 71x60x35 cm. BRENTWOOD. £15 01277 232377

BLACK SHELF UNIT FOR COMPUTER HxWxD = 71x64x32 cm. Black tubes and black ash wood. Without casters. BRENTWOOD. £12 01277 232377

COMPUTER'S Two shelf unit Tubes & 2 Shelves in black, unit has casters. HxWxD = 71x60x35 cm. BRENTWOOD £15 01277 232377

COMPUTER THREE SHELF UNIT White tubes & shelves, but not on casters. HxWxD = 92x60x32 cm. BRENTWOOD. £15 01277 232377

HP 2540p Elitebook Laptop Win 10 Corei5 320GB HDD 2GBRam No Webcam. Clean install of Win 10. Immaculate £100 01438318734 or 07988559201

ECHO DOT Amazon Echo Dot 2nd generation. £9 01245 355418

Garden Furniture

STONE TROUGHS x 5 each 30 inches long x 10 inches wide. Attractive pattern and in very good condition. Buyer forces sale. Cost £45 each bargain £100 01277 652018

GARDEN BENCHES wooden. One Lutyens 4 ft bench and one Peranakin 5 ft bench, £90 01277 652018

Christmas Gifts

MRS SNOWMAN WILD BIRD FEEDER Metal bird feeder, still wrapped, 37cm x 12 x12, for sunflower seeds. Ideal gift to hang up at this time of year £10 01621 893321 or 07887842073

Furniture

THREE PIECE SUITE

Brown Leather.
Sofa good condition.
Two armchairs excellent condition.
All manual recliners.
Sofa - £75
Chairs - £125 each one
01376513124 or 07969387483

French Berger Sofa & Chairs

French Berger suit, can be sold separately. Made by Strongbow, double cane, good condition
Sofa £250 chairs £100 each. Tel. 01621842747/07923466162
£450
01621842747/07923466162

DINING ROOM TABLE

Teak table 1.2m round
extendable to 1.65m plus four
teak chairs. VGC.

£150 ONO

07944151611

or 07931934411

NATHAN TEAK WALL UNITS

3 units ht 1.93m width 1.02m
plus one low level teak TV unit.
VGC. Can be bought individually.

£240 ONO

07944151611

or 07931934411

THREE PIECE SUITE

Three seater seater plus two
armchairs. Excellent condition.
Smoke and pet free house.

£245 ONO

07944151611

or 07931934411

PINE WALL DISPLAY SHELF

UNIT DISPLAY UNIT DIMENSIONS- H 60cm W 50cm D 13cm
SLIDE IN REMOVABLE MIDDLE SHELF. REAR HIDDEN WALL FIXINGS.
HAS MILLER BRAND NAME ON BOTTOM SHELF £28
07761632731

BUFFET/DISPLAY UNIT by Bridgecraft. Hand carved mahogany veneers with drop leaf mirrored drinks section, cutlery drawer, concealing lighting and glass display unit. Very expensive when new, vgc £100 01277 652018

G Plan Teak Double Wall Unit includes drinks cabinet with folding doors, lighting, glass display shelves and two cupboards. WS 'H5 10 D21' Excellent condition. Buyer collects. £80 01621 893321 or 07887842073

Bedroom pine furniture 2 bedside cabinets and double lateral dressing table with mirror and stool. Also freestanding mirror. £25.00 01245699284

Retro Formica Cabinet White & Teak 127x27. 2 glass doors & interior light; fold down door; shelf; 2 cupboards, 3 drawers (Romford) £20 07948 318956

DERWENT Easy chair in wine floral patterned quality fabric, feather cushion, walnut legs, arms and trim, vgc £75 01277 652018

Parker Knoll Occasional chair/ideal bedroom. Square back, removable seat in beige, grey and pink mottled pastels. VGC £15 01621 893321

Sofa Bed 2 Seater sofa / Double Bed. Colour Damson. Material Soft Cloth. Never used. Immaculate condition. Buyer Collects. £100 012456237378

NEST OF TABLES Nest of three teak tables VGC £30 07944151611 or 07931934411

Chest of Drawers H34" W22" D16" Lightweight, 4 drawers, light brown wood (Romford) £7 07948 318956

PINE TABLE & CHAIRS Pine table 1.36m x 0.7m plus four pine chairs. VGC. £95 07944151611 or 07931934411

ROCKING CHAIR White. (No cushions/covers.) £15 one 01245 355418

Hobbies (Sales)

Classic SCALEXTRIC Track Classic SCALEXTRIC Track and Accessories to include 11 Curves, 2 Straights; 1 Chicane; Power Base; 2 Hand-Controllers; and Power Adaptor. £12.00 01621 893321 or 0786669 or 01245 472175

SEA TOILET - Simpson Lawrie. Ready for a rebuild Black plastics Seat & Cover. White Earthenware Bowl. Bronze Pump, Valves, Handle. Off Adult size. BRENTWOOD. £50 01621 893321 or 07931934411

Fabrics for craft Large selection of fabric offcuts ideal for crafts. Prices from 50p or by yardage. Please contact for viewing. Price up to £5 01277 82149

BOAT FENDERS 3off blue 45x16cm. 1off blue 40x14cm. 5off blue 35x9cm 3off blue Teardrop 30x 19cm BRENTWOOD. Each £3 01277 232377

LIFE PRESERVERS - ORANGE 3 off Child size Crewsaver 1 off Adult size Helly Hansen Navigare BRENTWOOD £15 01277 232377

MOORING WARP 21m hank of 10mm Dia. Nelson look-alike PolyProp. Including black thread. BRENTWOOD £6 01277 232377

HORNBY SELECT R8213 DCC controller complete with instruction book and power supply £60 01702 231002

Heritage Railway Magazines issues 2010 to 2016, 60 magazines in total £25 01702 231002

Musical

GUITAR 3/4 size LAUREN Model 50-NT, without 3/4" body. NEW! NOW IS THE TIME TO PLANT FOR AN INSTANT EVER-GREEN HEDGE. CALL TO SEE 01268711002 or 07542880771

TANGLEWOOD GUITAR Full-size model TW-60. Nylon not Steel strings. 650mm string length. With a soft case. BRENTWOOD. £50 01277 232377

GUITAR - HOHNER Full size Guitar Model HC-06 . 650 mm string length. With Hard Case. BRENTWOOD. £80 01277 232377

Bicycles

AS NEW FOLDING BIKE

With plenty of additional extras including lights, locks and much more.

Buyer to collect

£140 ONO

07949091659

Boys BMX white bike 20 Inch Boys BMX bike (Zinc - Gravity) white, 20 inch mag style plastic 3 spoke wheels and stunt pegs to rear wheel. Good condition with slight marks to frame. £30 one 07774813506

Teenager's bike Scott bicycle 22" wheels 24speed gears Rideable, but needs some attention. Quick sale required. £30 one 07979 330565

CARAVAN OR BOAT POWER CABLE 25m (Orange with blue Plug & Socket on ends) BRENTWOOD. £25 01277 232377

Cameras/Camcorders

Photographic Darkroom Enlarger Krokus 35 SL, drawer for colour or multigrade B&W filters, 35mm glassless negative carrier, lens, dustcover & stand plus accessories (Romford) £35 07948 318956

Books For Sale

OLD Children's Annuals Thunderbirds 1971, The Victor book for boys 1976, Knockout 1974, Hotspur 1977, Countdown 1973, Tom and Jerry 1971, Trumpton Story Book 1971, The Treasure Annual 1975, Henry Cooper sports spectacular 1975, New Super Book for Boys 1970, Famous Fairy Tales, Hollywood London Film Parade Black&Annuals. Plus others. Offers invited on any of these books. All these books are in nice condition. Location Chelmsford. Please Phone (no texts please) first to arrange viewing £30.00 07864073997

'BOMBERCOMMAND CONTINUES', ACTUAL AIR MINISTRY ACCOUNT from July 1941 to June 1942, First Edition, 1942, 55 pages, 11 b/w photos, line map in covers, excellent condition family item, £8 07780994135

MRS BEETON The Best of Mrs Beeton collection of cookery and household management books 8 volumes in its own box. Unused. Originally 63.92 pounds. Ideal present £12 01277 652018

BRITISH RAILWAY Modelling issues available from 2004 to 2017 50 pence each or 12 issues for 5 pounds £1 01702 231002

STEAM RAILWAY Magazines 30 issues available 2015 to 2017 £18 01702 231002

Miscellaneous Sales

LOVELY PAIR OF LADIES' BOOTS MADE BY "TAMRIS" LEATHER FUR TOP SIZE 4/37 BOXED. COST 770 THESE BOOTS CAN BE WORN FOLDED UP OR DOWN THEY ARE IN PERFECT CONDITION, WORN TWICE. HALF PRICE. BEAUTIFUL PAIR OF BOOTS £35 07542880771

Child Car Safety Seats 2 x Graco Logic L Child Car Safety Seats 15-36KG Weight ICEE 9-18kg Weight (E14 04 04) only used for grandchildren (maximum 14 times) in outstanding condition (only kept indoors) £50 one 01277229952 (ring after 12 noon)

Child Car Safety Seat Tobi Maxi Cosi Child Safety Seat 9-18kg Weight (E14 04 04) only used for grandchildren (maximum 14 times) in outstanding condition (only kept indoors) £50 one 01277229952 (ring after 12 noon)

Winnie the Pooh clock Royal Selangor pewter and wood clock. All characters at base of clock in pewter. Orig. price 785 £100 01277 652018

4ft LAUREL BUSHES SUPERB QUALITY. POT GROWN IN 10 LITRE PLANTS. NOW IS THE TIME TO PLANT FOR AN INSTANT EVER-GREEN HEDGE. CALL TO SEE 01268711002 or 07542880771

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CANTEEN OF CUTLERY Beststock Quality Set 1829 Solingen German 70 piece stainless steel cutlery in lovely case. Only used once or twice. An absolute bargain. £90 01621 893321 or 07887842073

NORITAKE LEGENDARY SEANCE bone china dinner/tea ware 45 pieces, includes 3 size plates, bowls, tureen, salt and pepper pots, sauce boat, cups, saucers, teapot, milk and sugar £65 01277 652018

SUMMER CHINTZ Beautiful delicate patterned china plate ware complete 70 pieces all in very good condition includes, teapot, milk jug, sugar bowl and many more. £50 01277 652018

LIMITED EDITION PRINTS x 2 by Mary Farl Powers (1948-1982) signed in pencil to image, abstract formation, 36" x 29" very sought after prints each £15 01277 652018

VANGO BACKPACK Sherpa 65 Polo model used only once so in vgc, ideal for travelling £25 01621 893321

JIGSAW PUZZLE Storage Board with 1000 pieces and 1000 pieces £15 01702 231002

Wine Rack. Holds 30 bottles see Argos page 777. Good condition. £10 010 01245 226877

Parent & Baby

buggy mothercare babies buggy with mickey mouse seal enfield en3 £15 02088049934

high chair pink babies high chair in box enfield en3 £15 02088049934

Sports & Leisure (Sales)

GOLF BALLS (As New) Washed and Clean.. Bags of golf balls of various well known makes / or 15 TITLIST or 15 CALLERWAY / or 10 TITLIST PRO 'V' for sale. Also some YELLOW and RED balls available. Small display for multiple bags. Please PHONE (No Texts) first to discuss. Location is Chelmsford and buyer to collect. £5.00 07864073997

3 POINT ATTACHMENT LIFE-LINE Crewsaver Yellow & St/St double life-line, thus 3 attachments. You & 2 other points. There's safety in numbers. BRENTWOOD. £25 01277 232377

BOAT FENDERS FOR BOATS 3 off Blue 45 x 16 cm 1 off Blue 40 x 14 cm 5 off Blue 35 x 9 cm 3 off blue Teardrop 30 x 19 cm BRENTWOOD. Each £3 01277 232377

TRAILER REVERSING BAR 2.5 m steel tube with ball-hitch at one end & tow-coupling at other. Simple way to reverse the swing of a boat trailer when reversing into water. £25 01277 232377

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MEN'S SKI JACKETS x 2 both medium. Ice Peak Jacket, black/white/grey and French Oxyline jacket grey/white and red, both worn once only, vgc each £25 01277 652018

Boat's JETTY RUBBING BOARD About 11 ft long, 9 inch wide x 1.5 inch thick. Ready drilled for ropes. BRENTWOOD. £15 01277 232377

Electric Golf Trolley Powacaddy Freeway good working order with Callaway cart bag, Battery and charger £70 01376344729

motorcycle jackets Textile motorcycle jackets hardly used large and medium could be big and hers. Chelmsford price each £30.0 0124552849

SAFETY HARNESS & LIFE-LINE This safety harness & life-line are in blue. ANCR4 BRENTWOOD. £21 01277 232377

LADIES TRESPASS SKI JACKET size 10/12 black with fur hood in very good condition, £20 01277 652018

LUHTA SKI JACKET lime green colour, size 14/16, in very good condition £18 01277 652018

MOORING WARP 11m of 15mm Dia Nelson type. No black thread. BRENTWOOD £5 01277 232377

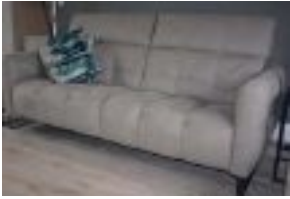
MOORING WARP 21m hank of Nelson look-alike PolyProp. Including black thread. BRENTWOOD £1 01277 232377

SALOMON SKI BOOTS black/grey in very good condition, ski boot size 3

Classified

Home Furnishing

Two Natuzzi Italia Sofas For Sale



Very high quality sofas for sale. 'Philo' design. See Natuzzi.com website. Unique modern designed, quilted shape with metal feet. Clean-lined shaped armrests and backrest that also folds down to a low back, soft padding for comfort. Only 6 months old. Excellent condition.
Light grey material. Invoice available for price paid in May 2018. £6,103.00 Size: 78-102cm height of back. 110cm deep. 212cm wide.
£4,500.00 ono
07515 880204

Sheridan curtains Beautiful lined fully washable Excellent condition To fit window 118cm high and 150cm width. Deep blue green with multi-colored William Morris style floral pattern. As new £20 ono 01277824103

MIRROR Circular with wicker frame overall width 23" in vgc £15 01277 652018

MIRROR etched and bevelled in gilt frame size 34" x 24" can be hung portrait or landscape. In very good condition. £25 01277 652018

Kentucky chairs two kentucky wooden chairs in natural pine £30 02088049934

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TV/Video/Audio (Sales)

*** VINTAGE HI-FI WANTED ***



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Speakers - Large Old: Tannoy, Westrex, Western Electric, Lowther or Vitavox (pre 1960 cinema speakers) or Small Rodgers, Chartwell monitor speakers.

Valve Amplifiers: Quad, Radford, Leak, Westrex or Western Electric. Solid state: Quad, meridian or Lecson

*** RECORD COLLECTIONS ALSO WANTED *** :
Modern Jazz, Folk, Progressive Rock, or Blues Considered
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*** VINTAGE HI-FI WANTED ***



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Speakers - Large Old: Tannoy, Westrex, Western Electric, Lowther or Vitavox (pre 1960 cinema speakers) or Small Rodgers, Chartwell monitor speakers.

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*** VINTAGE HI-FI WANTED ***

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Speakers - Large Old: Tannoy, Westrex, Western Electric, Lowther or Vitavox (pre 1960 cinema speakers) or Small Rodgers, Chartwell monitor speakers.

Valve Amplifiers: Quad, Radford, Leak, Westrex or Western Electric. Solid state: Quad, meridian or Lecson

*** RECORD COLLECTIONS ALSO WANTED *** :
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Business

Public Notices

Essex County Council

(Abercrombie Way, District of
Harlow)

(Parking and Waiting) (Amendment
No.14) Order 2018

Notice is hereby given that the Essex County
Council has made the above Order under Sections
(1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1), 4(2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46,
49, 53 and Part III & IV of Schedule 9 to the Road
Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Effect of the order: To revoke part of the existing
'No Stopping at Any Time' (Clearway) restrictions
on the following length of Abercrombie Way in the
Town of Harlow in the District of Harlow to allow for
a Puffin Crossing and associated zigzag lines to
be installed:

Road	Description
Abercrombie Way, Harlow	WEST SIDE: From a point approximately 18.7 metres north of its junction with the extended northern kerbline of Penlow Road, north for a distance of approximately 23.9 metres. EAST SIDE: From a point approximately 19.2 metres north of its junction with the extended northern kerbline of Penlow Road, north for a distance of approximately 37.7 metres. Tile ref: TL440 082 revision 1 to revision 3

This Order will be incorporated into The District of
Harlow (On Street) (Waiting, Loading and Parking)
(Consolidation) Order 2011 by substituting the
numbers TL440 080, TL440 087, TL440 090 revision
1 to revision 2, TL440 082, TL440 085 revision
2 to revision 3.

Date of operation: The Order will come into
operation on **7 December 2018**.

Further details: A copy of the Order and plans may
be examined during normal office hours at County
Hall, Chelmsford CM1 1LX.

Application to the high court: Anyone who wishes
to question the validity of the Order of any provision
contained in it on the grounds that it is not within
the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation
Act 1984 or on the grounds that any requirement of
the Act, or any instrument made under it, has not
been complied with in relation to the Order, may
within six weeks from the date of the making of the
Order apply to the High Court for this purpose.

Essex County Council, Network Assurance,
A2 Annexe, Seax House, Victoria Road South,
Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1QH
Telephone: 0345 603 7631
Website: www.essex.gov.uk/highways

HARLOW DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sections 53(2) and 70 of Part II of the Local Government
(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Revised Fees

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that subject to Council approval the
Licensing Authority proposes to vary the fees to be charged in relation
to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licences, details of which are
set out below:

Hackney and Private Hire Driver's Licence	
New driver annual licence	£240.00
New 3 year driver licence	£405.00
Annual driver licence renewal	£124.00
Three year driver licence renewal	£295.00
New driver licence of less than 1 year	£240.00
Driver licence renewal for less than 1 year	£67.00
Plus £5.00 for each whole or part of a calendar month to a maximum of £124.00	
Driver licenses for less than 1 year shall only be issued where the applicant is subject to immigration controls.	
Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence	
New vehicle and renewal	£298.00
A rebate of £18.00 shall be paid for each unexpired whole calendar month against a new vehicle licence on surrender of an existing vehicle licence and return of door panels and plate.	
Private Hire Vehicle Licence	
New vehicle and renewal	£298.00
A rebate of £18.00 shall be paid for each unexpired whole calendar month against a new vehicle licence on surrender of an existing vehicle licence and return of door panels and plate.	
Knowledge test	£53.00
DBS Check (first check after 1st April 2018)	£44.00
DBS Check (each subsequent check after 1st April 2018)	£64.00
Training (CSE and DA)	£50.00
Annual Private Hire Operator Licence	£297.00
Five Year Private Hire Operator Licence	£710.00
Representations may be made to the Council within 28 days of the date of this notice at the Licensing Authority, Harlow Council, Civic Centre, The Water Gardens, Harlow, Essex, CM20 1WG	
3rd December 2018	
Michael Pitt	
Environment and Licensing Manager	
Civic Centre, The Water Gardens, Harlow, Essex. CM20 1WG	

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Business

Public Notices

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND
CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation
Areas) Regulations 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Plans
and Consultation) Directions 1992**

PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been received by Harlow District Council. These applications and others received can be inspected at Harlow Council Planning Services, Civic Centre, The Water Gardens, Harlow, Essex, CM20 1WG on Monday – Friday, 9am – 4:45pm. If you are unable to view the plans during these times, please telephone Planning Services on (01279) 446856 where a suitable appointment can be made with the relevant case officer.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should write to the Council at the above address within 21 days of the date of this notice.

Application No: HW/FUL/18/00528 **Ward:** Mark Hall
Application Type: Full Application
Location: Templefields House River Way Harlow Essex

Proposal: Formation of a Playground

Reason for Advert: Major Development

Application No: HW/HSE/18/00517 **Ward:** Old Harlow

Application Type: Householder Application

Location: 24 Manor Road Harlow Essex CM17 0BE

Proposal: Single Storey Rear Extension

Reason for Advert: Conservation Area

Application No: HW/HSE/18/00529 **Ward:** Bush Fair

Application Type: Householder Application

Location: 218 Waterhouse Moor Harlow Essex CM18 6BW

Proposal: First Floor Side and Rear Extension

Reason for Advert: Affects Setting of Conservation Area

HARLOW DISTRICT COUNCIL

TENDER FOR MOT AND COMPLIANCE TESTING OF HACKNEY CARRIAGES AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Harlow Council, being the Licensing Authority, invites tenders from suitably qualified and experienced garage proprietors situated within the district of Harlow, who wish to bid for a contract for the MOT and Compliance Testing of Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Vehicles.

The services will involve approximately 510 MOT/ Compliance Tests for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles per annum (comprising of approx. 310 MOT and 200 mid-term compliance tests). The volume of work cannot be guaranteed and the information supplied is for indicative purposes only as numbers may fluctuate year on year.

The contract shall have a duration of twelve months, commencing 25th April 2019. The Council may, at its sole discretion, extend the contract on annual basis for an aggregate period not exceeding thirty-six months.

Tender Documents will be available from 11 December 2018. Organisations interested in receiving a set of Tender documents should register via e-mail: carolyn.livingstone@harlow.gov.uk

The deadline for the receipt of Tenders is noon on 16 January 2019.

BETTY JEAN FOSTER (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 5 Fullers Mead Harlow Essex CM17 9AP, who died on 01/10/2017, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 15/02/2019, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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Departs May 11, Sep 21 & Oct 5 2019

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Tour highlights

- ✓ Return flights from a wide selection of UK airports
- ✓ 7 nights 3-star accommodation in Arles (2 HB & 5 B&B)
- ✓ Walking tour of Arles
- ✓ Excursion to Nîmes, Pont du Gard and Avignon
- ✓ Boat trip in the Camargue with lunch
- ✓ Visits to Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer and Aigues-Mortes
- ✓ Services of a tour representative



Apulia & Royal Caserta

8 days from £899 Flying from a wide selection of UK airports Departs May 6, Sep 4 & 30 2019

This holiday includes visits to no less than five UNESCO World Heritage sites, all very different in character - the conical 'trulli' homes of Alberobello, the ancient stone 'sassi' houses of the Matera ravines, the Swabian castle of Castel del Monte, Santa Sofia in Benevento, and the Royal Palace at Caserta. As well as staying in Caserta itself you also spend time in Barletta on the coast in Apulia.

Tour highlights

- ✓ Return flights from a wide selection of UK airports
- ✓ 7 nights hotel HB accommodation (3 Caserta & 4 Barletta)
- ✓ Walking tour of Caserta and entrance to the Royal Palace
- ✓ Excursion to Trani and Castel del Monte
- ✓ Visits to Alberobello, Matera and Benevento
- ✓ Services of a tour representative



Bordighera - the Italian Riviera & Monte Carlo

8 days from £849 Flying from a wide selection of UK airports Departs Apr 29, May 13, Jun 3 & Sep 16 2019

The sun-seeking British of the 19th century left their mark all along the Riviera but perhaps nowhere more so than in the Italian town of Bordighera - famous for its perfect climate, seafront promenade, and palm trees. Just a few miles along the coast we find two more popular British haunts - Monte Carlo and Nice.

Tour highlights

- ✓ Return flights from a wide selection of UK airports
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Tour highlights

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female seeking

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CAROLINE, 42yrs, slim, 5'6, attractive. Highly motivated but alone weekdays. Hoping to meet a discreet gent any age for some fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432083

DAWN, 43, lonely widow, dark hair, green eyes, seeks honest male for good conversation and lots of TLC. Give me a call. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432079

JENNIFER, recently moved to the area from Leeds. 34yrs, real northern spirit and class, down to earth. WLM chat for casual fun times. Any age. Text Only. Box 4667099

PAT, enjoys music, meets out, travelling. WLM exclusively. 49-50 Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432055

ATTRACTIVE well informed lady, early 40s hoping to meet a naughty man. I'm attractive, well groomed, but alone weekdays. Let's meet up, call me. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432059

KIKI, curvy black lady with sexy personality. 45yrs, new to area and hoping to hook up with an older chap. Colour race unimportant. Text Only. Box 4147854

MARIE, 55, 5'8, blue eyes, not bad looking, divorced. GSCM adventures, easy-going, genuine, looking for a down-to-earth lady. 53-62, someone open-minded and genuine who has a laugh and joke. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432043

JIM, 57, 6'1, blue eyes, 165, looking for a white woman, N/S, any age, for romance, relationship and good times together. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432053

JIM, builder, 46, tall, good looking and fit. GSCM, easygoing, kind and considerate, into pubs, clubs, live music, sports, outdoor pursuits like walking, mountain biking and rock climbing. WLM a loving female. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432047

SHY male, 43, 5'8, brown hair, hazel eyes, looking for a lady, fit woman, 18-28, for fun, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432077

SANDRA, 60s, retired, 5'6, size 12, dark hair, brown eyes, nice personality, nice reading, socialising etc. looking for a nice gentleman, 60s, to enjoy life's adventures. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432001

ALICE, pretty petite lady, dark hair & eyes. 39yrs, very lovely and soft. Hoping to find a nice older gentleman to cheer me up. Text Only. Box 439190

GEMMA, brunette lady, well educated, smart and very presentable. Hoping to meet a discreet gent for weekday fun times. Discretion assured & guaranteed. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432055

CLAUDIA, 61yrs, hairdresser, pretty, sophisticated, tall slim, lovely hair & teeth. WLM part of any age for fun times. Text Only. Box 432049

LADY, seeking that special person who is ready to commit to a LTR, someone single, thoughtful, respectful, loyal, honest, caring, loving, encouraging and supportive. 55-65, N/S. London area. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432057

DORIS, 62yrs, blonde, 5'6, 40 something, hopes to meet open minded discreet gent. AGA. Tel: 0906 515 3019 Box 432088

ATTRACTIVE busty lady, late 40s, with a naughty side, is looking for an open minded gent, any age, for some no strings fun, I'm no 56s but not looking for a flake on relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432075

ANGELA, busty open minded lady 48yrs young. Loves to have fun and has a very naughty side. If you are looking for some fun times give me a call. Tel: 0906 515 3018 Box 432077

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HEATHER, 60, attractive, well travelled, no lies, seeks honest older male for romance and TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432021

EMMA, 56yrs, blonde, slim but busty. Works in F/T, long hours in London. Hoping to meet a gent who's understanding of my needs and can meet on a casual basis. Text Only. Box 4064304

CAROL, 49yrs, 5'2, attractive stylish blonde, bubbly and sexy seeks dark attractive male to enjoy life, love and fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432061

WHITE male, 60, 5'10, brown hair, hazel eyes, looking for a lady, fit woman, 18-28, for fun, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432077

ROMANTIC WLM a lady 21-30, fit and slim, if you would like some discreet fun please let me know. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432061

SHY male, 43, 5'8, brown hair, hazel eyes, looking for a lady, fit woman, 18-28, for fun, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432077

WHITE male, 60, 5'10, brown hair, hazel eyes, looking for a lady, fit woman, 18-28, for fun, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432077

FIT lady, 45yrs, 5'6, slim, 74, with many and varied interests. WLM exclusively, warm, caring lady, 60-70, living within 10 miles of Herts/Bedfordshire. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432017

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LEE, 48yrs own building yard, hard worker, kind & caring. Just missing that special lady to wine, dine. Long term relationship. Text Only. Box 432016

QUIET 60 years old white male, looking for an affectionate, genuine female, for relationship. Text only. Box: 3268033

male seeking

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WD, working class, chunky gay guy 52yrs. Straight acting. WLM professional gent 50+. Text Only. Box 4166837

TOMY of Colchester, get back in touch with Jeff of Chelmsford. I want to meet you regularly. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432029

JULIE, 50s, animals, holiday looking for straight ladies, 50+, come out dancing in single clubs around the Westend area. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 432035

SUBMISSIVE gay, young 78, fit, good build, seeks regular, active gay affectionately unimportant. Visit me in Chelmsford. Tel No: 0906 515 4456 Box No: 4

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Usher guides Harlow home

HARLOW Running Club were represented at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park 10k, where Ben Usher finished in 21st place out of 410 finishers in a personal best time (PB) for the distance of 39min 46sec.

He was followed by Andy Kitson 22nd in 39:50, Kerry Mavris 132nd in 49:53, Gail Nicholls 148th in 50:42, Janice Page 179th in 52:41, Louise Kedde 204th in 54:08, David Page 219th in 55:15 and Karen Kitson 407th in 1hr 26min 14sec.

Meanwhile, at Harlow parkrun, Andy Terrell finished in third place out of 123 finishers in 20:54.

He was followed home by Lee Webber sixth in 21:15; Alan Broughton seventh and first Vet 50 in 21:24, Sharon Wright eighth and first female in 21:26, Martyn Coulter ninth in 21:50, Catherine Ridge 15th and second female in 23:34, Bobby Draper 16th and first Vet 55 in 23:40.

Steve Warren finished 17th and second Vet55 in 23:43, Sandi Rust 20th in 23:56, Paul Dixon 21st in 24:09, Andy Smith 23rd in 24:18, Steve Cowlin 25th in 24:31, Robert Scott 26th in 24:36.

Action from Harlow's match against Bognor Regis **ROB FURBER**



Hawks fight back for share of spoils

DRAW MEANS TOWN FALL BACK INTO DROP ZONE

HARLOW Town's run of improved results continued with an entertaining 1-1 draw against promotion-chasing Bognor Regis Town.

In what was a hard fought and end-to-end clash, the visitors scored from a hotly disputed penalty to take the lead in the ninth minute.

Although manager Danny Chapman and his team responded positively, they could only secure a share of the spoils, with Emile Acquah levelling things up 14 minutes later.

Other results meant Harlow dropped back into the Bostik League Premier Division relegation zone, but they will face lesser opposition than Bognor Regis over the remainder of the season.

The visitors got a lucky break in the ninth minute. Bradley Lethbridge fired in an overhit cross, with James Muitt chasing it down. JJ Da Cruz put in a rash tackle on the striker and gave away a penalty.

Muitt went for power over placement and was successful, scoring into the left hand corner.

Harlow were rocked, and Daniel Smith was trying to take advantage.

The young winger's mazy run into the box was followed by a fizzing low cross, which Da Cruz had to boot off the line in the 11th minute.

Lethbridge, who has already scored nine goals this season, was at it again a minute later. His pinpoint whipped cross from the left should have been converted by 16-goal man Muitt, but his close range header was brilliantly tipped over by Josh Bexon.

A nasty injury to Lethbridge in the 23rd minute, disrupted play, but The Hawks took advantage. Just three minutes later, after some patient play, Yannick Kissi fizzed in a low cross and Acquah got ahead of the defence and pounced to level.

Harlow gradually started to take control in the second half and in the 66th minute, half-time substitute Reece Hackney's long range strike was well covered by Dan Lincoln.

Christian Scales was bought on for Nathan Koranteng in the 73rd minute and the change almost paid off immediately when he launched a long free-kick from the halfway line, which Acquah reached and headed

across. Da Cruz was agonisingly close, but could not connect.

Five minutes later, Paul Rodgers just inside Bognor's half, surged forward and put in an outrageous curved cross from 30 yards out.

Scales followed it and acrobatically volleyed it towards goal, calling Lincoln into action with a brilliant save.

Mayowa Adaje was there on the follow up, but couldn't remain balanced enough to put the ball in the net.

Bognor Regis then came close themselves three minutes later. Joe Tomlinson got himself involved with a brilliant cross into the box, and it was Tommy Scutt who hit the bar with a spectacular strike from range.

Scales and Da Cruz worked a delightful one-two in the middle, but Da Cruz was left with no other option but to shoot from 20 yards.

Despite giving their all in the three minutes of additional time, Harlow failed to find a winner.

Hawks make the trip to fifth place Enfield Town this Saturday, kick off 3pm.



Academy pupils help out at national event

YOUNG sports leaders at Harlow's Burnt Mill Academy (pictured) have helped host a national event for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

A team of students from the Academy took on the role of sports leaders to assist pupils with SEND with their inclusive PE lessons at the school.

As a result of that work, the students have been asked to attend and help out at various events around the county hosted by Panathlon.

The leaders' latest role saw them assist at the Panathlon Primary Schools National Finals at the Copper Box at the Olympic Park.

Schools from all over the country had qualified to take part in the event, while Burnt Mill was among just three schools asked to help on the day.

Phil Dawes, director of PE for the BMAT group of schools, said: "Our leaders received lots of praise for their conduct and encouragement from the organisers and also staff from the schools taking part."

"The school is very proud of our sports leaders."

The 14 leaders explained, judged and scored the activities, which included boccia, skittles, new age kurling, beanbag throws, table cricket, adapted basketball and target throws.

The leaders - Freya Chapman, Mae Brewer, Alana Mansfield, Kya Andreou, Olivia Tyne, Jessica Galvin, Zayla Maertens, Anisa Zhubi, Ronnie Pontin, Harry Weemes, Abid Haque, Josh Appolos, Marshall Chesterton, Ben Stringer - received certificates for their work at the event.

The school was recently named Newcomer of the Year in the Jack Petchey Panathlon Achievement Awards for the sports leaders' work in leadership.

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Chartered Accountants and Tax AdvisersSimon Reed CEO of
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“

The last 12 months have seen us capitalising on the strategic decisions made

Simon Reed, CEO of Simarco

Logistics company thriving despite Brexit uncertainty

Essex-based firm has seen its turnover rise by 20 per cent in the last year thanks to new clients and integration of other operators

ONE of the UK's leading independent logistics firms has reported that continued uncertainty about the potential impact of the country's withdrawal from the European Union has failed to blunt its progress.

Simarco Worldwide, which has its headquarters in Witham, has revealed its turnover rose by 20 per cent in the course of the last financial year, taking its annual sales above £60 million for the first time.

Co-founder and CEO, Simon Reed, has disclosed that the company's performance over the last 12 months had been fuelled by a string

of new clients and successfully integrating two of the country's other specialist operators following twin seven-figure acquisitions.

Mr Reed added that Simarco had also seen a "considerable" expansion in its road, sea and air services both in the UK and abroad as well as the size of its workforce.

"Even allowing for discussions about what Brexit will mean to our industry, the last 12 months have seen us capitalising on the strategic decisions made and everyone's sheer hard work over the recent years.

"We are under no illusions about the challenges which leaving the EU

will pose to ourselves and our industry peers.

"However, we believe that we have put in place very capable processes and attracted the kind of talented individuals who give us every reason to believe that we can thrive whatever happens.

"Being able to swiftly and successfully integrate the two businesses - Formula Goss International (FGI) and Sutch and Searle - which we acquired only a year ago has provided a fillip to our air freight volumes, in particular.

"Our approach has also persuaded a number of major brands in a variety of sectors, including consumer electronics, beauty, luxury goods and sports and leisure, to ask us to represent them.

"That expansion has required us not only to step up our recruitment but to invest in creating a skilled,

motivated and diverse workforce able to continue the progress that we're making well."

Only last month, Mr Reed announced that business generated by Simarco's air freight services had risen by six per cent in the 12 months since completing deals to buy both FGI and Sutch and Searle.

He added that the air freight performance had been a contributing factor in Simarco's turnover increasing. Sales for the last year were more than double those in 2014.

Mr Reed explained that the company now employed 360 people across eight sites in the UK and was pressing ahead with plans to develop a "rewarded and highly capable" workforce to provide for its future.

"Even without the prospect of Brexit - whatever shape that might take - we are like every other logistics firm in that we face significant

challenges due to changes in the nature of the people who work in our industry.

"The average age of drivers and support staff, for example, continues to increase. We have come up with initiatives to make a career in logistics even more appealing as well as retaining and developing the careers of those who we have already recruited.

"Our apprentice scheme has evolved over the last five years to build our profile with educational establishments in Essex and beyond and led to our taking on a number of young people.

"We believe that with all this effort, we're on the right track."

Mr Reed's comments follow Simarco becoming one of only four logistics companies to take their place among the ranks of the 100 largest companies in Essex.

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Magnificent seven rewarded

BIRKETTS, the leading law firm based in the East of England, has announced that 35 of its most talented lawyers – including seven at its office in Chelmsford – have been promoted.

Those promoted cover a wide range of legal services – signifying the depth of talent available at the firm and its commitment to the personal and professional development of staff members.

The promotions have been revealed following a sustained period of growth for Birketts having recently reported a 17% rise in annual turnover to a record £49.5m for the last financial year, which saw the law firm rise five places to 62 in The Lawyer's statistical analysis of the UK's largest firms, marking it out as East Anglia's regional powerhouse.

Chief executive Jonathan Agar said: "To support our growth we continue to focus on attracting

CHELMSFORD PROMOTIONS

MARIE BATCHELOR: Commercial Litigation (Senior Associate)

AMANDA EARLY: Commercial Property (Senior Associate)

ANNABELLE ROUT: Agriculture (Senior Associate)

WILL ARRAN: Commercial Litigation (Associate)

STEPHANIE AYRE: Corporate (Associate)

DANIEL BROWNE: Commercial Property (Associate)

HANNAH HARBOTTLE: Commercial Property (Associate)

and retaining first class solicitors. In total we have promoted 35 lawyers across our four offices as we look to recognise the talent that we have within the firm. Coupled with this talent is an unrelenting



commitment to deliver consistently outstanding service to our clients. Our intention is to continue to build and sustain a business that is recognised as a leading regional law firm offering London-quality

services at a fraction of the costs, to clients locally, nationally and from around the world."

Jonathan added: "As well as recognising the standout performances of those that have

been promoted, Birketts is also committed to rewarding collective effort. This year £1.32m was shared through the firm's staff profit share scheme and performance-related bonuses."

Birketts

Clear Legal Advice

NO SMOKE & MIRRORS

Just clarity

We're not magicians. We can't pull rabbits out of hats. And the last thing we'll do is create any illusions. We're here to tell it as it is – cards on the table with nothing up our sleeves. Our clients rely on us for the skilled legal advice that gives them the clarity and certainty they need. With us, what you see is what you get – insightful experience, deep expertise and total dedication to delivering the outcomes you want.

Cambridge · Chelmsford · Ipswich · Norwich

www.birketts.co.uk/chelmsford

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Firm wins high praise for its legal services

ONCE again, Birketts LLP has been picked out as being one of the strongest law firms in the East of England over a wide range of legal services, with the prestigious Legal 500, a directory of the best law firms across the UK, listing Birketts as a top performer.

This year, Birketts, which has an office in New London Road, Chelmsford, has been recommended as a 'top-tier firm' in 35 practice areas.

Additionally, 55 practice areas feature Birketts' lawyers either listed in the Hall of Fame or the elite 'leading lawyers' list. This includes people from all four core disciplines: Corporate and Commercial, Property, Dispute Resolution and Private Client.

Issued every year, the Legal 500 is the go-to guide for anyone wanting to find the best lawyers. Law firms are ranked from tier one through to five in different practice areas, according to their reputation and expertise.

Rafael Ruiz, partner at Birketts' Chelmsford office, said: "We are proud and delighted to say that we have retained all our core rankings in each sector from last year and have also added to them."

Rafael's own team, Corporate and Commercial, is this year the only one to be ranked as tier one in Essex, and Rafael and his partner, Nick Burnett, are again ranked as leading individuals in this area.

The Legal 500 is compiled using information gained in four different ways: law firms write their own submissions, clients provide testimonials, researchers visit law firms and interview professionals and there is also a peer review system whereby lawyers are asked to recommend other firms who work in their same area of expertise or geographical locality.

These various streams of input make the directory a robust and reliable resource, as is the fact the Legal 500 is available online where it is free to access without any subscription or registration.

Businesses deliver profit and turnover growth in face of brexit concerns

ESSEX'S 100 largest companies have responded strongly to a challenging economic and political environment, delivering double digit growth in turnover and profit, along with a healthy rise in the average salary over the past 12 months, according to a new report.

The Essex Limited study, conducted annually by business and financial advisers Grant Thornton and for the first time this year, in partnership with regional law firm Birketts, provides an in-depth financial analysis of the 100 largest companies which are both owned and managed within Essex to give a recognised barometer of the local economy. The report also includes a 'Growth 50' index, looking at the 50 highest growth companies outside the top 100 list by turnover.

The report findings, unveiled to Essex business leaders at a breakfast event hosted by Grant Thornton and Birketts, showed combined operating profit for the top 100 companies rose an impressive 14.3% to £524m, highlighting improved efficiency and cost control. Total turnover for Essex Limited's constituent members also rose by 10% to £9.1bn, evidencing positive growth across the county.

Employment levels for the 100 companies increased by 1.4% (670 jobs) to 49,573 people. The Healthcare sector remained the largest employer at 15,999 people, up 1.0%, with at least 5,000 more

employees than any other sector. Job increases were seen across four of the seven sectors, with the highest rise delivered by Retail and Wholesale, up 12.3% to 7,184 people.

The average salary of those employed by the top 100 companies increased by 5.3% to £28,189. This exceeds the national rate of inflation, indicating real wage rises and suggests an investment in a skilled and qualified workforce, allied to increases in the Living Wage and National Minimum Wage. Property and Construction was the highest paid sector with an average annual wage of £44,440 (up 3.4%), with Healthcare the lowest at £15,501 per annum. This is 45.2% lower than the average wage across the top 100.

Property and Construction leads the way

Property and Construction continued to dominate the market share of turnover (31.8% at £2.9m), followed by Retail and Wholesale (23.3% at £2.1m) and Services (15.3% at £1.4m). Six sectors reported turnover increases, led once again by Property and Construction which delivered a 24.1% rise. The only sector to see turnover fall was Automotive, down 8.9% to £1.2m. This reverses last year's position when Automotive saw the biggest turnover increase of 14.6%.

Property and Construction also remained the most profitable sector (£316m and 60.2% share), up 36.9%,

followed by Retail and Wholesale (£65m and 12.3% share) which also saw the largest rise in operating profit of 47.4%. Automotive, Services and Manufacturing all reported a fall in operating profit of 53.1%, 40.2% and 7.6% respectively.

Top 100 business Phelan Construction Limited is just one example of the Essex companies thriving in the Property and Construction sector.

Neil Coy, Managing Director, Phelan: "We're thrilled to have been named as one of this year's top 100 best performing businesses in Essex and hope to continue this through our five-year structured business plan which aims to increase the profile of the business within the region and beyond."

"This involves looking to develop into new vertical sectors that align to our current core skill-sets. Phelan has always exemplified fast-track refurbishment projects within the hospitality sector and we will continue building on this platform through our emphasis on pride, passion and people."

Robust and resilient

The 2018 Essex Limited study was based on the latest company accounts available and so offers an insight into how Essex has performed during the post Brexit vote period as local businesses respond and prepare for the challenges that lie ahead.

Commenting on the results, Trevor Ling who leads Grant Thornton's Chelmsford office,



said: "The 2017 Essex Limited report reflected on the uncertainty surrounding Brexit and while this appears to be impacting on the UK as it lags behind its key international competitors in terms of both growth and productivity, in 2018, Essex Limited has shrugged this off to deliver an impressive overall performance, including significant growth in the average wage."

"The results represent a resilient

Birketts can now undertake work for wider public sector

LEADING law firm Birketts has been appointed to the Crown Commercial Services Panel Agreement for the provision of services to the wider public sector.

The appointment enables the firm to undertake legal work for the wider public sector in relation to property and construction, social housing, education,

debt recovery, planning and environment, licensing, litigation dispute resolution, intellectual property and employment across the East of England, East Midlands, Greater London, and the South East.

Ruth Neave, head of Birketts' Public Sector Team, commented: "We are delighted that

the Crown Commercial Service has appointed us to their Panel Agreement for the provision of legal services to the public sector. This is a significant appointment for Birketts and we are very much looking forward to working with and supporting public sector bodies and further developing our relationship with them."



Ruth Neave, of Birketts Chelmsford

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The speakers and panellists at the event from left: Adam Jones (Birketts), Dino Forte (Ventrica), Kim Morrish (Ground Control), Trevor Ling (Grant Thornton), Andrew Howie (Shaken Udder Ltd), James Lipscombe (The Chesterford Group) and Graham Mummery (Grant Thornton)

and growing county confident in its entrepreneurial roots, with much of this growth delivered through increased investment. Results across the sectors continue to vary but Property and Construction and Retail and Wholesale remain the standard bearers for the county."

For the fourth year running, the report also included a 'Growth 50' index which showed the 50 highest growth companies in terms

of turnover are also performing strongly. These businesses achieved an average turnover rise of 34.9% and contributed a total turnover of £1.38bn to the Essex economy. The Growth 50 delivered an even more impressive average profit growth of 73.4%, reporting a combined operating profit of £137m.

The 2018 analysis also looked at the geographical spread of the top 100 companies. These are widely

dispersed across the county with Basildon the highest number of companies (11), closely followed by Chelmsford (10) and Colchester (9), accentuating the diversity and opportunity across the county.

Adam Jones, partner at Birketts continued: "The strong performance delivered by both the top 100 and Growth 50 companies which are well spread across the county and operate in a variety of

sectors, further goes to underline the strength and depth of the Essex economy. With 14 new entrants into the top 100 and 41 into the Growth 50 this year, it's also reassuring to see a robust pipeline of new, dynamic businesses coming through."

During the 2018 Essex Limited briefing event held at Stock Brook Country Club in Stock, local business leaders and guest

panellists Dino Forte, founder and CEO, Ventrica; James Lipscombe, owner and Managing Director, The Chesterford Group; Andrew Howie, co-founder, Shaken Udder Ltd and Kim Morrish, Director, Ground Control, all shared valuable insights and took questions from delegates.

For a full copy of the Essex Limited 2018 report, please contact Grant Thornton at essex@uk.gt.com.

Meet the team: Tom Utting

TOM Utting is a Solicitor in the Corporate Team at Birketts and specialises in corporate and corporate finance matters such as company mergers, acquisitions and disposals.

TOM is in The Business as he commenced working at Birketts in November and wanted to introduce himself.

■ 1. WHAT DO YOU DO TO RELAX?

Play the piano;

■ 2. WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT ESSEX?

The variety of people that you meet;

■ 3. MOST LISTENED TO TRACK ON YOUR IPOD?

The Pretender by Foo Fighters;

■ 4. NAME ONE THING ON YOUR "BUCKET LIST":

New York at Christmas;

■ 5. NAME YOUR THREE FANTASY DINNER GUESTS:

J.K. Rowling, Stephen Fry and David Attenborough;

■ 6. FAVOURITE MEAL?

Fajitas;

■ 7. FAVOURITE TV SHOW?

Parks & Recreation;

■ 8. FAVOURITE FILM?

The Lord of THE Rings (all three but

Return of the King if I had to pick one!);

■ 9. CITY CENTRE OR COUNTRY ESCAPE?

City centre;

■ 10. EARLY BIRD OR NIGHT OWL?

Definitely a night owl;

■ 11. DANCING OR SINGING?

Why not both?;

■ 12. BLACK TIE OR DRESS DOWN FRIDAY?

Dress down Friday;

■ 13. IF YOU HADN'T BEEN A LAWYER, YOU'D HAVE BEEN...

A book shop owner.



Event:

■ EVENT: HR Development

Programme

■ **VENUE:** Birketts LLP - Chelmsford Office

■ **DATE:** 30 January 2019

■ **TIME:** 08:00 - 10:00

JOIN Birketts and Pure for their new HR Development Programme, designed for HR professionals who are aspiring leaders of the future and are focused on developing their careers.

■ **COST:** Delegate cost - £40

■ **CONTACT:** clare-robinson@birketts.co.uk to book.

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'BIDs formed to reinvigorate the county's high streets'

THE Chancellor's Budget announcement provided a welcome boost for some small businesses with further business rates relief and a fund set aside for various aspects of high street improvement. There was, however, less support on offer for the larger retailers such as Debenhams who are the latest big-name retailer to announce closure and staff cuts. The future of the high street is reliant on a strong mix of businesses and the inclusion of big-name retailers that attract shoppers.

The outlook is not all bleak, however. An increasing number of areas in the UK are taking matters into their own hands, by forming their own Business Improvement Districts (BIDs). Locally, these include Southend and Chelmsford.

There is flexibility within a BID, and the benefits are wide-ranging. Businesses large and small pay a levy to be represented in the BID zone, with an equal stake and a collective voice that can decide and direct exactly what the area needs.

BID projects can include everything from clearing high street litter, to repainting streetscapes and organising show-stopping Christmas displays that help to attract shoppers.

Additionally, joined-up marketing efforts and facilitated community networking opportunities help to promote a strong, clear and cohesive message, raising the profile of the BID zone to visitors.

Rather than yearly budget announcements, it seems that continuous community-based initiatives, such as the BID mechanism, are working hard to provide our high streets with a much-needed lifeline.

In the face of relentless online competition, store closures and an uncertain economic future, it is clear that the retail industry will need initiatives like these more than ever before.

At Rickard Luckin, our Retail team is able to offer support and bespoke guidance to retail businesses via a range of services including; strategic planning, tailored management information systems, payroll and VAT advice. To find out more, simply contact us.

Is Black Friday good or bad for business?

Mark Brooks, manager in the retail team at Richard Luckin, looks at the impact the seasonal sale has on businesses

NOW that competition over the best Black Friday and Cyber Monday deals has passed, it's time to breathe and reflect.

Although such events are undoubtedly popular, I am often asked whether or not I feel they are a positive trend for business, particularly in the hectic run-up to Christmas.

It is often argued that if businesses don't promote Black Friday deals, they will miss out on the increased consumer confidence and the much higher sales they can bring – even if only for a very short period. Meanwhile, businesses that participate have to consider if they are achieving the very best margin on those short-lived Black Friday sales, and what long-term impact they will have on overall strategy.

Black Friday benefits

Black Friday events generate greater consumer confidence and looser purse strings. This is evident from the significant increase in footfall we see in our major shopping areas on the day, and from a significant spike in internet traffic.

Abandonment rates for online sales reduce by around 7% on average during Black Friday, meaning substantial sales can be achieved. This can be especially useful for shoppers as Christmas approaches.

Black Friday also offers a great way to build consumer/brand loyalty. A good deal

combined with good service means consumers are more likely to return. However, Black Friday can cause shoppers to expect discounts. If businesses don't provide them, will consumers turn to the competition?

Given the proximity of Black Friday to Christmas, offering cut-price deals to engage with consumers can lead to more pre-Christmas custom. For many businesses, this heralds a significant opportunity for increased sales.

Black Friday is often a much cheaper way of acquiring new customers than through traditional marketing methods. The costs that come with running a full brand awareness campaign are likely to be significantly more than the costs of reducing the price of a few key products or services.

Additionally, where Black Friday goods are purchased for Christmas itself, the burden to sell, prepare and ship products in a time-shortened window is slightly relaxed, leading to cheaper logistics and staff costs.

What are the drawbacks?

Consumers in search of a Black Friday deal could be said to be already looking to buy. Therefore, businesses taking part in the event are possibly giving away a sale that could have been made at full price.

This scenario reduces the overall margins that can be achieved. Particularly considering the current outlook for UK retailers, in which 14 shops are closing every day, can this significant cut in profit margins be sustainable?

Often, businesses devise Black Friday deals without a



Mark Brooks, of
Rickard Luckin



long term view of the impact they will bring. Rather than basing such deals on what works for them as a business, they are instead a reaction to the market.

Consumers are out to find the best deal for them, which means they will be price-sensitive. If a business is not offering the lowest price, it is unlikely the sale will

be made. An ultra-competitive environment means the potential benefits of Black Friday events can be significantly reduced.

With Amazon and other price-slashing online behemoths also competing for sales, can retailers differentiate themselves enough to be noticed when it comes to price? If not, it may be wiser to consider

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Black Friday and Cyber Monday are aimed at giving retail a boost before Christmas

TOTTOTO / SHUTTERSTOCK.



alternative consumer-attracting selling points.

Many businesses hope to ease their supply chain pressures in the lead up to Christmas. However, a rush of sales in November may lead to increased returns in December, which can serve to make these issues worse.

When integrated into marketing

and financial planning, a Black Friday event can be a very useful way of building brand loyalty and increased market share, as well as easing fulfilment issues with supply and delivery chain.

At Rickard Luckin, our accounts and business service teams work closely with our clients to discuss issues such as these on a practical

level.

We work with businesses to plan, prepare and budget for either approach. Our team can run a series of 'what if' scenarios, to help you consider the likely impact of your chosen policy (though it must be stressed that we aren't able to separate any bargain-hungry consumers!)



Businesses in the East of England set to experience fastest growth in the UK

RICKARD Luckin hosted its annual Autumn Budget and Economic Briefing on 30 October, highlighting headline economic, tax and VAT developments important to businesses.

Nina Skero, Head of Macroeconomics at the Centre for Economics and Business Research provided an insightful overview of the UK economy to date, tracking GDP growth and stand-out sector performances across a handful of industries.

The most encouraging headline for Essex businesses was the finding that the East of England is expected to grow faster than any other region in the UK over the next four years. Nina Skero said: "I was encouraged to hear a few business representatives in the audience talk about their recent expansion efforts. They explained that even though they're aware of the economic headwinds, they've found good opportunities to acquire more space and hire additional workers and they decided that now was a good time to grow. This apparent confidence among the business leaders present makes me hopeful for the future, as business confidence can be rather self-fulfilling. Businesses are optimistic so they invest; this boosts growth thereby justifying the confidence."

With a positive, overall economic outlook established for Essex, regional businesses didn't have much to fear from Budget 2018.

The planned reduction in the main rate of corporation tax to

17% would provide a major boost to businesses and there was confirmation that there would be a fivefold increase in the Annual Investment Allowance (AIA) from £200,000 to £1m. The AIA is an amount of qualifying capital expenditure a business can claim a 100% write-off against taxable profits in the year the costs are incurred. This change is effective from 1 January 2019 for two years.

The introduction of a new Structures and Buildings Allowance (SBA) will be available on the capitalised construction costs of new commercial buildings. SBA will apply at a fixed rate of 2% per annum and will transfer to future owners of the properties.

To those businesses acquiring goods from other EU Member States, the message is simple; apply now for an Economic Operator Registration Indicator (EORI) number to ensure you can continue to bring these goods into the UK in a post-Brexit environment.

While Budget 2018 was generally good news for Essex businesses, there is plenty to prepare for over the next few months, including the upcoming government initiative, Making Tax Digital for VAT. This comes into effect on 1 April 2019. Businesses should carefully review how they will be affected by the scheme, which looks to ensure that businesses with a taxable turnover of above £85,000 keep digital VAT records and submit their returns using MTD-compatible software.

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Challenges and opportunities

Glyn Mummery, specialist business advisor and insolvency expert at FRP Advisory LLP in Brentwood, reflects on a successful 2018 and looks ahead to what the next twelve months could hold

As the year draws to a close, we reflect on what has been a busy twelve months across Essex. Against a backdrop of continued economic uncertainty, the business community has certainly faced their fair share of hurdles.

I struggle to remember a time where the future is so unclear, but fresh challenges often come with fresh opportunities for business owners. Forward planning and keeping up momentum are key to starting the New Year right.

The B word

Brexit has of course dominated this year – indeed it's difficult to escape conversations about it – and this will continue into 2019.

With the continuing uncertainty about our relationship with the EU as we approach March 2019, we expect businesses across Essex to continue being cautious in their attitudes towards their growth and investment. This 'wait-and-see' approach is a common thread we've seen among the majority of firms we have worked with.

Whilst no guidelines, laws or rules have been set in stone to date, those businesses that have already been showing signs of distress are more likely to continue on this path for as long as there is a feeling of uncertainty.

It's raised the questions around trading relationships, supply chain links and labour shortages – all



Ongoing Brexit uncertainty has made our future relationship with the European Union unclear
 SEAN GALLUP/GETTY IMAGES

which are still unanswered as I write.

Recent research from Lloyds Bank Commercial Banking's Business Barometer shows that business confidence in the South East fell during November. As the value of the pound dropped, pressures on the cost of raw materials and overheads when buying goods from overseas have increased, squeezing margins even further. And it would be amiss not to mention oil prices. High oil costs, which have come about as a result of increased demand and restrictions in supply, have inhibited growth across the world, as consumer prices are forced to be pushed higher.

But it isn't all doom and gloom. The same research shows signs of increasing optimism amongst businesses in November, in comparison to what we saw in October. This shows that while management teams may be feeling squeezed at the moment, they are approaching

the future with resilience.

Many firms are taking their future into their own hands and proactively asking for help to future proof their business, for advice on next steps or the best route forward.

Seeking help early on is important. So far this year, we have supported more than 100 businesses across Essex who have fallen into administration or shown signs of distress.

Whether it has been a result of cash flow pressures or trading problems, staffing issues or failing to remain competitive, we've worked with management teams to secure the best outcome in what is always a very difficult situation. But we've also worked with many businesses to ensure it doesn't get this far. And in this current economic climate, it hammers home the importance of ensuring management teams plan ahead.



In such uncertain times, planning for every eventuality is important
 GETTY IMAGES

Helping firms to find the right employees for them

FIGURES show 724,100 people are employed in Essex, and the establishment of the London Essex Finance Corridor helps the county to capitalise on its proximity to the world's leading financial services hub.

Throughout the course of 2018, FRP Advisory has worked with a wide range of businesses, and have helped to secure the jobs of 2,000 workers across a number of sectors.

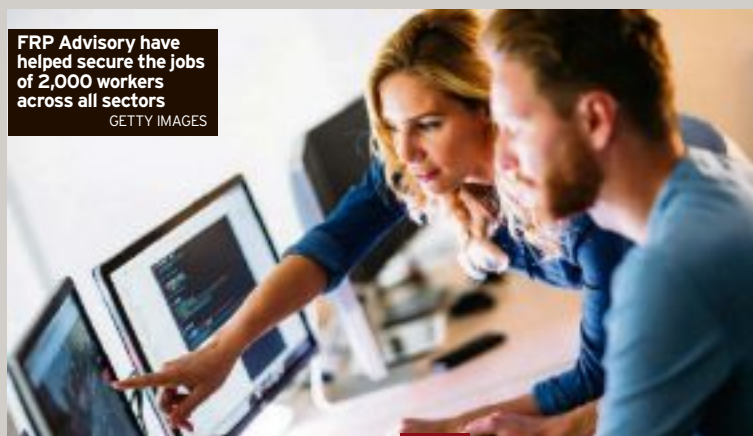
When we see firms in distress and running into financial difficulties, we work with the

relevant teams to ensure we secure the best outcome for all parties, including creditors and stakeholders.

This means working alongside management teams to identify the cracks in the road as early on as possible and agree upon the best route forward for that particular business.

This may be identifying a suitable buyer if there is still a commercial opportunity, or making the executive decision to run the business through the liquidation process.

FRP Advisory have helped secure the jobs of 2,000 workers across all sectors
 GETTY IMAGES

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Businesses need to build for the future

Construction firms may look to the housing market as Brexit uncertainty has meant many commercial developments have been put on hold



THROUGHOUT the course of 2018, FRP Advisory has seen some industries struggle more than others.

For example, the construction sector saw 2,764 firms go into insolvency in 2017/18, up 6 per cent on the previous year.

Looking to the year ahead, management teams should watch out for rising input prices and a reduction in access to skilled labour.

Tapping into the housebuilding sector may be a growth driver for construction firms, as many commercial building developments have been put on hold as a result of Brexit.

The blight of the high street also looks set to continue as the online

versus bricks and mortar battle continues, and rent costs continue to sky rocket.

Retail businesses need to remind themselves that personalisation and provenance are at the forefront of preference and that the online marketplace needs to be given just as much as attention as any shop, whilst also not letting standards slip in store.

Agricultural businesses look set to benefit from the weaker pound resulting in lower prices. But, farm owners should be mindful of any changing regulation that may impact their trading, as well as the European market turning its head to

other regions in the wake of Brexit.

Looking beyond the EU and using government schemes to look for international opportunities may help diversify your client portfolio and avoid any shortfall from a future dip in European custom.

Logistic firms may also need to look further afield.

There will always be a demand for haulage services, but with the year ahead looking uncertain when it comes to legalities, such as the potential for increased transport taxes and issues with securing permits in the dawn of leaving the EU, firms may need to look to new markets in 2019.

Ben scoops Apprentice of the Year award

IN November, the FRP Advisory team attended the Brentwood Business Awards, where trainee insolvency administrator Ben Falkingham was awarded with 'Apprentice of the Year'.

Ben has worked at FRP Advisory for over a year and has supported the team on a number of cases. We extend our congratulations to him and all of the other winners and finalists.



Ben Falkingham of FRP Advisory was awarded Apprentice of the Year earlier this month

Helping charities is part of our culture

FROM the Three Peaks Challenge to the Nuclear Races, to a number of Bake Off, Red Nose Day, Wear It Pink and MacMillan coffee morning events, the Brentwood-based FRP Advisory team has raised more than £25,000 over the last 12 months.

Raising money and donating our time is a big part of our culture and we actively encourage

our team to take part in charitable activities, whether for personal reasons or as a team-building exercise.

FRP Advisory also support our business community initiatives, such as the Birketts Race4Business event, which has achieved so much for the local community over 20 years of successful fund-raising.

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Capturing life's biggest moments

From wedding days to family portraits, **Krystal Hockley** specialises in photographing the most important people and occasions in our lives

By **HANNAH BROWN**

hannah.brown@reachplc.com
 @essexlive

YOUR wedding day, your children's early months and years - photographs of these moments and times of life are incredibly precious and are treasured for life.

Because of this many hire a professional photographer to capture these moments in order to achieve picture perfect mementos of their life.

Krystal Hockley, 24, from Chelmsford is a professional photographer who works hard to capture these moments for people across Essex.

"It's brilliant, I absolutely love it. I mainly take pictures of children and weddings, but I also do christenings, Christmas events, childrens parties, lots of different events," Krystal explained.

"You get to meet lots of different people in this job and you get to be a part of important moments."

Krystal has worked as a photographer for nearly four years, running her business called Kaos Photography.

A mum of three herself, she explained that taking pictures of her children led her into this line of work.

"I have three children and I was forever taking pictures of them, so I thought why not do this professionally?" she said.

"I started taking pictures of friends' children and then did child photography sessions and then branched out to weddings."

Krystal explained that she loves working with children and revealed her secrets to keeping their attention and getting the little ones to sit still for the camera.

"It takes a lot of silly faces," Krystal explained with a laugh.

"I have a lens cap with different

characters on it to get them to look at the camera, there's quite a few different ways, but I do what I've found works best with my children."

As a wedding photographer Krystal has been a part of what for many is one of the biggest and most important days of their lives.

She explained that she understands how important her role is on those days for the bride and groom.

"I play a big part in the wedding day, it's amazing," Krystal said.

"If you haven't had to get a photographer at your wedding then you won't realise how big a part they play in your day."

"I try to capture the things that other people will miss. I do the basic posed shots, but I also try and get other things, like the rings and shoes, things people may not notice."

"When I show the picture to the bride and groom they often cry, that's the most usual reaction."

Before each wedding Krystal will meet with the bride and groom to discuss what they would like from the pictures.

Over the course of a wedding day Krystal will often take more than 1,000 photographs.

From these she has to go through and reduce the amount by nearly half for the couple.

"I can take 1,000 plus pictures on a wedding day. I will usually have to get this down to about 500 or 600 digital copies and however many were previously discussed in print," Krystal said.

"It takes a lot of time. I have to sit down and I will spend hours picking the best ones out."

"I look for something special in the pictures, the groom looking at the bride, or the bride looking at the groom, something that gives the picture a bit more."

Although she has covered many traditional-style weddings, Krystal

has been to a couple of themed weddings that add something different to the special day.

"I have been to a Beauty and the Beast themed wedding, which I was very excited about," Krystal said.

"I love the film and my daughter is a big fan."

"I also went to a nightclub wedding, where the wedding took place at 9pm and the party went on into the early hours."

"I was a bit sceptical that it would be as beautiful as a daytime wedding, but it was amazing."

"Because these wedding were different they stood out more. It was lovely to be a part of."

Krystal said she covers about ten weddings a year and hopes to do more next year.

She explained that working as a photographer allows her to work around her children and that since taking up her camera, she hasn't looked back.

"I love working with children, and being part of people's special days, Krystal said."

"I really enjoy what I do and I wouldn't want to change it."

"I previously studied entrepreneurship and did a course on mental health, but I wanted to start photographing, so I did and I have never looked back since."

Krystal's children's photography sessions start at £30. A full day of coverage for weddings start at £600 and will range in price depending on what the couple want.

More examples of Krystal's work can be found on her Facebook page Kaos Photography and her website kaosphotographyessex.co.uk

■ Anyone who is interested in hiring Krystal to capture their special moments can contact her through her website, via email at KaosPhotographyEssex@hotmail.com, or by calling her on 07480861732.

“

I try to capture the things that other people will miss. I do the basic posed shots but I also try to get other things people may not take notice

Krystal Hockley,
Kaos Photography



Krystal Hockley tries to capture unguarded moments or something personal or distinctive in her pictures

KRYSTAL HOCKLEY/KAOS PHOTOGRAPHY

in association with **Birketts**
RickardLuckin
 Chartered Accountants and Tax Advisers

in association with **Birketts**



RickardLuckin
Chartered Accountants and Tax Advisers



A selection of Krystal's evocative portraits of children
KRYSTAL HOCKLEY/KAOS PHOTOGRAPHY

in association with **Birketts**



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BUSINESS

Some of the turkeys that are reared at the Temple Farm turkey farm in Roydon by the SJ Frederick family

MOST OF US ONLY THINK ABOUT CHRISTMAS DINNER AT THIS TIME OF YEAR BUT FARMERS HAVE TO PLAN 12 MONTHS IN ADVANCE

Getting turkeys ready for Christmas starts in January

By **HUW WALES**

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It is the busiest time of year for turkey farmers across the country as they prepare for Christmas and the festive season.

While turkey might only be on the minds of most people now farmers, such as Fredericks at Temple Farm in Roydon, have spent most of the year getting ready for this key month.

Many put the thought of turkey and Christmas out of their mind in the New Year, but for turkey farmers, that is when their work towards the following Christmas begins.

"It begins in January and February time. We will begin to talk to our customers and see how their Christmas went," said Chris Fredericks, partner at SJ Fredericks at Temple Farm.

This discussion, focussing on how many turkeys were sold, if certain types or weights were preferred, is key to their success later in the year.

To make sure they have the right

turkeys for the butchers and other customers, they need to know as far in advance as possible.

Mr Frederick said: "It is probably one of the most difficult parts of the job and we have to get the right weight of turkeys and types of turkey."

"We are using all the information we have gathered from the businesses over the year and we talk to the customer to get a feeling if they have any changes."

This year, Temple Farm has got 6,500 turkeys, enough to cover their existing customers, as well as any new customers who get in touch during the year.

Whatever they have left over, they use in other projects.

The coming weeks are the busiest time for turkey farmers like the Fredericks. In the past week they will have plucked the turkeys and begun the process of getting them ready for the butchers they serve up and down the country.

The equipment they need to do the job will have already



been delivered, with some of the materials needed having arrived in July.

After the turkeys have been fully prepared, they will start to be delivered by the Temple Farm team to butchers and other customers across the nation. While many of

their customers operate in London, they also can deliver anywhere in the country.

The turkeys from Temple Farm have won accolades as being some of the best in the country from the Great Taste competition which is organised annually by the Guild of

Fine Food. The Fredericks at Temple Farm are also part of the Traditional Farm-Fresh Turkey Association, a group that sets the high standards for Christmas turkeys.

■ For more information about the Fredericks team at Temple Farm, visit their website sjfrederick.co.uk